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LONDON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1857.

REVIEWS

Northern Travel: Summer and Winter Sketches of Sweden, Lapland, and Norway. By Bayard Taylor. (Low & Co.)

LOTUS-EATING on the Nile, dreaming under Abyssinian palms, glancing into red and gold temple interiors in China, wondering among the shadows of immemorial mysteries in India, straining his eyes to gain a glimpse behind the scenes in Japan,—all this had not satisfied Mr. Bayard Taylor. It was not enough to have trodden the ever-growing coasts of Eastern islands, to have watched the golden bells shaking on pagoda eaves, to have left, like a lion, the print of his feet on the yellow North-African desert, to have saluted the great Ganges, and received welcome in Loo Choo; he desired to imitate the Enchanted Sleeper, and awake to find himself, by turns, in all the countries of the world. Therefore, having done homage to the Equator, he sought the Arctic Circle,—and we, who have followed him where the lightest mimosa-leaf stirred not in the torrid calm, and where earth and heaven seemed of the colour of fire, now hail him as, with a frozen beard and drifts of snow upon his eyelids, he drives a team right towards the Aurora Borealis. Winter upon the Baltic! The traveller was determined to know what the North is when most northern, not when the charity of summer bestows upon it a few blossoms, a passing warmth, and the charm of clear skies and sparkling seas. Thus, it was in December that he embarked on the Baltic, amid raw mists, with a prospect of going just so far as the vessel could anticipate the final freezing of the waters. With all his experience, Mr. Bayard Taylor seems to have started in a state of illusion. He expected to see a desolate zone of the world—shores only fit to be the companions of icebergs, skies made up of blue fogs and black storms, a people all yellow-haired, benumbed, and dreary; yet, with an artist's instinct, he speedily found an opening for his imagination, which has a Saracenic sympathy with colour, and espying, in some dim, white gleams, the headlands of Sweden, began to understand and relish the precincts of the Pole. His water route ceased at Stockholm. Then he journeyed northwards in a sledge,—and many were the revolutions of the vehicle on the road,—but a Swedish snow-track, though broken and wild, is not exactly so formidable as a pass of the Caucasus; so that, to a traveller who could find himself when lost, this sort of progress was by no means disagreeable. Mr. Bayard Taylor, indeed, has a genuine appetite for travel, an eye for landscapes, a genial heart for simple customs and a stout one for dangers, and so long as there are pictures to see and paint the enjoyment of his mind is supreme. This happy spirit pervades his narrative of adventures, whether among the solitudes of Norrland, between Innerstafte and Haparanda, across the Arctic circle, under a sky like a vault of rainbows, among the Finns upon whose native ice lapidaries might work in vain, the Lapps, whose heads—though they are not a tall race—seem almost to touch heaven or elsewhere in the regions of the wonder-working north-wind. Here, fortunately for his idiosyncrasies, notwithstanding that snow—except where the crimson moss stains it—is white, a thousand beautiful variegations were spread before his eye, and writing as he does with a pencil dipped in all the colours of Art, his story brightens with a perpetual reflection of rocks, waters, hills, the tinted roofs of cottages, the gay

boddices of maidens, the rich radiations of sunrise, and that aurora which seems to melt into itself all the beauty and lustre of the globe. The forests seemed to him vast columnar wildernesses of bronze, frosted with silver, the twigs of the birch glistened like efflorescences of crystal; and through this quaint realm, on the border-land of unreality, the American with one companion, pushed his way, thanking Providence for a suit of fur, caps of sea-otter, mittens of dog-skin, immense woollen sashes, and lined Russian boots. It was nothing that the twilight deepening over Upsala descended like a curtain of orange, roses, and amber green; the air bit like a tooth of iron, and an Italian organ-boy, making the people sad with his sweet music, looked precisely as a turban looks among Paris hats. The method of travel was by *Skjuts* and *Jörbud*,—that is to say by post, with relays ordered in advance, and this process shot the tourist a hundred and fifty-five miles towards the North Pole within two days. Then, from Sundsvall began the Norrland sledge drive through a country whose products are grain and flax,—whose linen is poetically white,—whose beds are the cosiest in the world,—and where a postilion is sometimes “a darling fellow, not more than ten years old, with a face as round, fresh, and sweet as a damask rose, the bluest of eyes, and a cloud of golden curls,” and at others a purple-cheeked damsel. Here the wheel-less carriages sang over snow “pure as ivory, hard as marble,” the travellers stopped to drink milk flavoured with cinnamon, and the winter had its way.—

“My beard, moustache, cap, and fur collar were soon one undivided lump of ice. Our eye-lashes became snow-white and heavy with frost, and it required constant motion to keep them from freezing together. We saw everything through visors barred with ivory. Our eyebrows and hair were as hoary as those of an octogenarian, and our cheeks a mixture of crimson and orange, so that we were scarcely recognizable by each other. Every one we met had snow-white locks, no matter how youthful the face, and whatever was the colour of our horses at starting, we always drove milk-white steeds at the close of the post.”

Explorers in Canada and Siberia speak of a tingling sensation in the throat, produced by the excessive cold; Mr. Bayard Taylor experienced no such sensation. “It was glorious,” he says, and then dashes into a description of the scenery.—

“I have never seen anything finer than the spectacle which we then saw for the first time, but which was afterwards almost daily repeated—the illumination of the forests and snow-fields in his level orange beams, for even at midday the sun was not more than eight degrees above the horizon. The tops of the trees only were touched: still and solid as iron, and covered with sparkling frost-crystals, their trunks were changed to blazing gold, and their foliage to a fiery orange-brown. The delicate purple sprays of the birch, coated with ice, glittered like wands of topaz and amethyst, and the slopes of virgin snow, stretching towards the sun, shone with the fairest saffron gleams. There is nothing equal to this in the South—nothing so transcendently rich, dazzling, and glorious. Italian dawns and twilights cannot surpass those we saw every day, not, like the former, fading rapidly into the ashen hues of dusk, but lingering for hour after hour with scarce a decrease of splendour.”

Cod-liver oil in England fortifies against cold; Mr. Bayard Taylor ate half-a-pound of butter at a meal to warm himself, even in so plenteous a land as West Bothnia, where British porter was to be had, with luxuries beyond enumeration. Falling among Finns he missed the blue eye, blond hair, slim, upright form of the Swede, and fancied he could detect an Asiatic touch in the people.—

“You see, instead, square faces, dark eyes, low foreheads, and something of an Oriental fire and warmth in the movements. The language is totally dissimilar, and even the costume, though of the same general fashion, presents many noticeable points of difference. The women wear handkerchiefs of some bright colour bound over the forehead and under the chin, very similar to those worn by the Armenian women in Asia Minor. On first coming among them, the Finns impressed me as a less frank and open-hearted, but more original and picturesque race than the Swedes.”

Typical of the North-Swedish damsels was Frederika, who amused the traveller at Haparanda.—

“Of medium height, plump, but not stout, with a rather slender waist and expansive hips, and a foot which stepped firmly and nimbly at the same time, she was as cheerful a body as one could wish to see. Her hair was of that silky blonde so common in Sweden; her eyes a clear, pale blue, her nose straight and well formed, her cheeks of the delicate pink of a wild-rose leaf, and her teeth so white, regular, and perfect that I am sure they would make her fortune in America. Always cheerful, kind, and active, she had nevertheless a hard life of it; she was alike cook, chambermaid, and hostler, and had a cross mistress to boot. She made our fires in the morning darkness, and brought us our early coffee while we yet lay in bed, in accordance with the luxurious habits of the arctic zone. Then, until the last drunken guest was silent, towards midnight, there was no respite from labour. Although suffering from a distressing cough, she had the out-door as well as the in-door duties to discharge; and we saw her in a sheepskin jacket harnessing horses, in a temperature of 30° below zero. The reward of such a service was possibly about eight American dollars a year. When, on leaving, I gave her about as much as one of our hotel servants would expect for answering a question, the poor girl was overwhelmed with gratitude; and even the stern landlady was so impressed by my generosity that she insisted on lending us a sheepskin for our feet, saying we were ‘good men.’”

Once or twice on the road the American comes into collision with the poet Campbell, whom he reproves for talking of Tornea's hoary brow and Elsinore's stormy deep, which have no more existence than his lyrical palm-trees upon the Susquehanna; but these discoveries have been made before, and are not very valuable. At last, forgetting all else, he was upon the mountain through which “it is said the Arctic circle passes,” and remembered how he had yearned towards it in the midst of tropical balm. The pale plains contrasted with the dazzling hills, and in this mystical remoteness lived Mr. Wolley, an English naturalist, with his daughter. They lodged in the house of a carpenter, and there a pleasant repast was spread for the strangers.—

“Warmed and comforted by such luxurious fare, we climbed the hill to the carpenter's house, in the dreary Arctic twilight, in the most cheerful and contented frame of mind. Was this, indeed, Lapland? Did we, indeed, stand already in the dark heart of the polar winter? Yes; there was no doubt of it. The imagination could scarcely conceive a more desolate picture than that upon which we gazed—the plain of sombre snow, beyond which the black huts of the village were faintly discernible, the stunted woods and bleak hills, which night and the raw snowclouds had half obscured, and yonder fur-clad figure gliding silently along beside his reindeer. Yet, even here, where Man seemed to have settled out of pure spite against Nature, were comfort and hospitality and kindness. We entered the carpenter's house, lit our candles and pipes, and sat down to enjoy at ease the unusual feeling of shelter and of home. The building was of squared fir logs, with black moss stuffed in the crevices, making it very warm and substantial. Our room contained a loom, two tables, two beds with linen of voluptuous softness and cleanness, an

iron stove (the first we had seen in Sweden), and the usual washing apparatus, besides a piece of carpet on the floor. What more could any man desire? The carpenter, Herr Knoblock, spoke some German; his son, Ludwig, Mr. Wolley's servant, also looked after our needs; and the daughter, a fair, blooming girl of about nineteen, brought us coffee before we were out of bed, and kept our fire in order. Why, Lapland was a very Sybaris in comparison with what I had expected. Mr. Wolley proposed to us another luxury, in the shape of a vapour bath, as Herr Forström had one of those bathing-houses which are universal in Finland. It was a little wooden building without windows. A Finnish servant-girl, who had been for some time engaged in getting it in readiness, opened the door for us. The interior was very hot and moist, like an Oriental bathing-hall. In the centre was a pile of hot stones, covered with birch boughs, the leaves of which gave out an agreeable smell, and a large tub of water. The floor was strewn with straw, and under the roof was a platform extending across one end of the building. This was covered with soft hay, and reached by means of a ladder, for the purpose of getting the full effect of the steam. Some stools, and a bench for our clothes, completed the arrangements. There was also in one corner a pitcher of water, standing in a little heap of snow to keep it cool. The servant-girl came in after us, and Mr. Wolley quietly proceeded to undress, informing us that the girl was bathing-master, and would do the usual scrubbing and shampooing. This, it seems, is the general practice in Finland, and is but another example of the unembarrassed habits of the people in this part of the world. The poorer families go into their bathing-rooms together—father, mother, and children—and take turns in polishing each other's backs. It would have been ridiculous to have shown any hesitation under the circumstances—in fact, an indignity to the honest, simple-hearted, virtuous girl—and so we deliberately undressed also. When at last we stood, like our first parents in Paradise, 'naked and not ashamed,' she handed us bunches of birch-twigs with the leaves on, the use of which was suggested by the leaf or sculpture. We mounted to the platform and lay down upon our backs, whereupon she increased the temperature by throwing water upon the hot stones, until the heat was rather oppressive, and we began to sweat profusely. She then took up a bunch of birch-twigs which had been dipped in hot water, and switched us smartly from head to foot. When we had become thoroughly parboiled and lax, we descended to the floor, seated ourselves upon the stools, and were scrubbed with soap as thoroughly as propriety permitted. The girl was an admirable bather, the result of long practice in the business. She finished by pouring hot water over us, and then drying us with warm towels. The Finns frequently go out and roll in the snow during the progress of the bath. I ventured so far as to go out and stand a few seconds in the open air. The mercury was at zero, and the effect of the cold on my heated skin was delightfully refreshing.

Northern travellers are familiar with this custom, but it is curious to find it in an English household upon the Arctic circle. The American's next launch was across Lapland, in a sledge drawn by reindeer, a mode of progression with which he was speedily disgusted. Upon the barren mountain, Lippivara, at the hamlet of Lippajärvi, nineteen hundred feet above the sea, Lapp life was studied under its primal aspects.

"I have rarely seen anything quite so bleak and God-forsaken as this village. A few low black huts, in a desert of snow—that was all. We drove up to a sort of station-house, where an old, white-headed Finn received me kindly, beat the snow of my poesk with a birch broom, and hung my boa near the fire to dry. There was a wild, fierce-looking Lapp in the room, who spoke some Norwegian, and at once asked who and what I was. His head was covered with a mop of bright brown hair, his eyes were dark blue and gleamed like polished steel, and the flushed crimson of his

face was set off by the strong bristles of a beard of three weeks' growth. There was something savage and ferocious in his air as he sat with his clenched fists planted upon his knees, and a heavy knife in a wooden scabbard hanging from his belt. When our caravan arrived I transferred him to my sketch-book. He gave me his name as Ole Olsen Thore, and I found he was a character well known throughout the country. Long Isaac proposed waiting until midnight, for moonrise, as it was already dark, and there was no track beyond Lippajärvi. This seemed prudent, and we therefore, with the old woman's help, set about boiling our meat, thawing bread, and making coffee. It was necessary to eat even beyond what appetite demanded, on account of the long distances between the stations. Drowsiness followed repletion, as a matter of course, and they gave us a bed of skins in an inner room. Here, however, some other members of the family were gathered around the fire, and kept up an incessant chattering, while a young married couple, who lay in one corner, bestowed their endearments on each other, so that we had but little benefit of our rest. At midnight all was ready, and we set out."

At Kautokeino was passed a sunless day, and this was Mr. Bayard Taylor's furthest point north. Pausing to note certain national characteristics, he remarks of the Finns—

"A Finnish woman expressed the greatest astonishment and horror, at hearing from Mr. Wolley that it was a very common thing in England for a husband and wife to kiss each other. 'If my husband were to attempt such a thing,' said she, 'I would beat him about the ears so that he would feel it for a week.'"

Upon concluding his Arctic trip he makes certain notes on the weather.—

"I should have frozen at home in a temperature which I found very comfortable in Lapland, with my solid diet of meat and butter, and my garments of reindeer. The following is a correct scale of the physical effect of cold, calculated for the latitude of 65° to 70° north.—15° above zero—Unpleasantly warm.—Zero—Mild and agreeable.—10° below zero—Pleasantly fresh and bracing.—20° below zero—Sharp, but not severely cold. Keep your fingers and toes in motion, and rub your nose occasionally.—30° below zero—Very cold; take particular care of your nose and extremities; eat the fattest food, and plenty of it.—40° below—Intensely cold; keep awake at all hazards, muffle up to the eyes, and test your circulation frequently that it may not stop somewhere before you know it.—50° below—A struggle for life."

Stockholm, of course, disdains the simplicity of interior Sweden, and Mr. Bayard Taylor is just to its architectural appearance; but upon its fashions he is ironical.—

"Nowhere are to be seen such enormously tall and stiff black chimney-pots (mis-named *hats*), nowhere such straight-cut overcoats, descending to the very heels. You might stick all the men you see into pasteboard cards, like a row of pins, so precisely are they clothed upon the same model. But when you meet one of these grim, funereal figures, he pulls off his hat with a politeness which is more than French; he keeps it off, perhaps, while he is speaking; you shake hands and accept his invitation to enter his house. Arter you are within, he greets you a second time with the same ceremonies, as if you had then first met; he says, 'Tak for siel' (equivalent to, 'thank you for the pleasure of your company the last time we met') and after your visit is over, you part with equal formality. At dinner the guests stand gravely around the table with clasped hands, before sitting down. This is repeated on rising, after which they bow to each other and shake hands with the host and hostess. Formerly they used to say, 'I thank you for the meal,' a custom still retained in Denmark and Norway."

The Swedes, he says, take off their hats to every one they know.—

"A lift of the hat, as in Germany, is not sufficient. You must remove it entirely, and hold it in the air a second or two before you replace it.

King Oscar once said to an acquaintance of mine, who was commiserating him for being obliged to keep his hat off the whole length of the Drottning-gatan, in a violent snow-storm—'You are quite right, it was exceedingly disagreeable, and I could not help wishing that instead of being King of Sweden, I were King of Thibet, where, according to Hue, the polite salutation is simply to stick out your tongue.'"

Perhaps the picture of immorality at Stockholm is slightly over-coloured; it is at all events unpleasant, and sends us in search of graceful sketches from the Bergenstift.—

"The farmer's little daughter, however, who came along to take back one of the horses, would have been a pleasant apparition at any time and in any season. She wore her Sunday dress, consisting of a scarlet bodice over a white chemise, green petticoat, and white apron, while her shining flaxen hair was plaited into one long braid with narrow strips of crimson and yellow cloth, and then twisted like a garland around her head. She was not more than twelve or thirteen years old, but tall, straight as a young pine, and beautifully formed, with the promise of early maidenhood in the gentle swell of her bosom. Her complexion was lovely—pink, brightened with sunburnt gold,—and her eyes like the blossoms of the forget-me-not, in hue."

Not graceful, but characteristic, is this companion description of a female costume in Hallingdal.—

"It consisted simply of a band across the shoulders, above the breasts, passing around the arms and over the back of the neck, with an immense baggy, dangling skirt hanging therefrom to the ankles. Whether she was fat or lean, straight or crooked, symmetrical or deformed, it was impossible to discern, except when the wind blew. The only thing to be said in favour of such a costume is, that it does not impede the development and expansion of the body in any direction. Hence I would strongly recommend its adoption to the advocates of reform in feminine dress at home. There is certainly none of that weight upon the hips of which they complain in the fashionable costume."

Not less illustrative is the account of a Tellemark kitchen.—

"We took possession of the kitchen, a spacious and tolerably clean apartment, with ponderous benches against two sides of it, and two bedsteads, as huge and ugly as those of kings, built along the third. Enormous platters of pewter, earthen and stone ware, were ranged on shelves, while a cupboard, fantastically painted, contained the smaller crockery. There was a heavy red and green cornice above the bed, upon which the names of the host and his wife, with the date of their marriage, were painted in yellow letters. The worthy couple lay so high that several steps were necessary to enable them to reach the bed, in which process their eyes encountered words of admonition, painted upon triangular boards, introduced to strengthen the pillars at the head and foot. One of these inscriptions ran, 'This is my bed: here I take my rest in the night, and when morning comes I get up cheerfully and go to work;' and the other, 'When thou liest down to sleep think on thy last hour, pray that God will guard thy sleep, and be ready for thy last hour when it comes.' On the bottom of the cupboard was a representation of two individuals with chalk-white faces and inky eyes, smoking their pipes and clinking glasses. The same fondness for decorations and inscriptions is seen in all the houses in Tellemark and a great part of Hallingdal. Some of them are thoroughly Chinese in gaudy colour and grotesque design."

Mr. Bayard Taylor is in himself a Babel, and utters many languages. This astonished mine host at Westfordalen.—

"He brightened up on learning that we were Americans. 'Why,' said he, 'there have only been two Americans here before in all my life; and you cannot be a *born* American, because you speak Norsk so well.'—'Oh,' said I, 'I have learned the language in travelling.'—'Is it possible?' he exclaimed: 'then you must have a powerful intellect.'

—“By no means,” said I, “it is a very easy thing; I have travelled much, and can speak six other languages.”—“Now, God help us!” cried he; “seven languages!” It is truly wonderful how much comprehension God has given unto man, that he can keep seven languages in his head at one time. Here am I, and I am not a fool; yet I do not see how it would be possible for me to speak anything but Norsk; and when I think of you, it shows me what wonders God has done. Will you not make a mark under your name, in the book, so that I may distinguish you from the other two? I cheerfully complied, and hereby notify future visitors why my name is italicised in Ole’s book.”

We cannot go with the American into Dalecarlia, a classic ground in the North, where he drank the yellow mead and saw the pearly-toothed maidens who are not exonerated from nursery discipline until they are betrothed; but we part with him while he is painting a picture of the North.—

“I opened my eyes and saw a narrow belt or scarf of silver fire stretching directly across the zenith, with its loose frayed ends slowly swaying to and fro down the slopes of the sky. Presently it began to waver, bending back and forth, sometimes slowly, sometimes with a quick, springing motion, as if testing its elasticity. Now it took the shape of a bow, now undulated into Hogarth’s line of beauty, brightening and fading in its sinuous motion, and finally formed a shepherd’s crook, the end of which suddenly began to separate and fall off, as if driven by a strong wind, until the whole belt shot away in long, drifting lines of fiery snow. It then gathered again into a dozen dancing fragments, which alternately advanced and retreated, shot hither and thither, against and across each other, blazed out in yellow and rosy gleams or paled again, playing a thousand fantastic pranks, as if guided by some wild whim. We lay silent, with upturned faces, watching this wonderful spectacle. Suddenly, the scattered lights ran together, as by a common impulse, joined their bright ends, twisted them through each other, and fell in a broad, luminous curtain striding downward through the air until its fringed hem swung apparently but a few yards over our heads. This phenomenon was so unexpected and startling, that for a moment I thought our faces would be touched by the skirts of the glorious auroral drapery. It did not follow the spheric curve of the firmament, but hung plumb from the zenith, falling, apparently, millions of leagues through the air, its folds gathered together among the stars and its embroidery of flame sweeping the earth and shedding a pale, unearthly radiance over the wastes of snow. A moment afterwards it was again drawn up, parted, waved its flambeaux and shot its lances hither and thither, advancing and retreating as before. Anything so strange, so capricious, so wonderful, so gloriously beautiful, I scarcely hope to see again.”

This extract, an example of his exuberant yet not meretricious style, will assure the reader that Mr. Bayard Taylor is of the right mould for a traveller,—keen, enthusiastic, and capable of describing what he has seen.

Lord Brougham’s Acts and Bills from 1811 to the Present Time, now first Collected and Arranged, with an Analytical Review shewing their Results upon the Amendment of the Law. By Sir J. E. Eardley-Wilmot, Bart. (Longman & Co.)

Few men will leave more “footprints on the sands of time” than Lord Brougham. When we run through the important matters in which he has taken a prominent part, we almost fancy that his name must be Legion, and cannot doubt that a future generation will believe that there were many Broughams, as there were many persons of the name of Hercules; “all these labours,” they will say, “could not be performed by the same man. There was, doubtless, a Brougham of Edinburgh, another of London, and a Brougham of the South of

France—a Brougham of Literature, a Brougham of Science, and a Brougham of the Senate, who was, probably, the same hero that was deified by some idolaters of his day who were known as the Law Amendment Society.” Nevertheless, Lord Brougham is one. We know it by certain features both corporeal and intellectual, which are too marked to allow us, who have seen and heard him, to doubt his identity.

The author of this book treats only of the labours of the Senatorial Brougham, and of a portion only of his labours; yet what a marvellous record of restless activity does he set forth!

During an almost unbroken Parliamentary career of nearly half a century—as Harry Brougham of the Commons or Lord Brougham in the Upper House—he has taken part in all the chief discussions that have arisen. These fifty years have been a time of unexampled progress. We see their growth on every side. In some cases Lord Brougham has planted, in others his hand has watered only; but few great changes have been made that do not bear the impress of his active and powerful mind. His exertions have sometimes been spasmodic in action and eccentric in manner, but they have generally been made in a large spirit, and always with an honest endeavour for the good of the commonwealth. If he has ever allowed himself to enjoy that comparative rest and retirement that Sydney Smith recommended to him,—namely, the transaction of so much business only as three strong men could get through,—it has been during a very recent period.

The large book now offered to the public contains a record of the doings of the Senatorial Brougham as a law reformer, and the compiler has added his Acts and Bills on two other subjects not coming strictly within the province of Law Reform—namely, the Slave Trade, and the Extension of Education. A successful effort in the former most noble subject formed a worthy inauguration of the Parliamentary career of Harry Brougham in the year 1811, and in the last session of Parliament he introduced two bills—the one for the Amendment of the Law as regards the Property of Married Women, the other a bill for the Prevention of Vexatious Litigation by the Institution of an Improved System of Arbitration—a favourite scheme which he has been advocating during somewhat more than a quarter of a century.

Of the law reforms with which he has been prominently connected in the intervening period we cannot even mention the names; suffice it to say, that if medals were given for Parliamentary prowess he would receive one for the great victory over the powerful host that fought for Chancery abuses, another for the fight by which our County Courts were established, and various clasps with Law of Libel and Slander, Privy Council and Patent Law, Real Property, Bankruptcy, and Law of Evidence engraved on them respectively. He would also receive the Victoria Cross for an act of distinguished valour in having, even in the Chancellorship of Lord Eldon, advanced to the attack of the stronghold in which he commanded.

We do not very well see the object or intent of the book before us. It is prefaced by an analytical review of Lord Brougham’s Parliamentary efforts as a law reformer, which is fairly and concisely written, save that the author approaches the idolatrous with respect to his subject, and is somewhat prodigal of complaints of his own hard fate in holding the office of a County Court Judge in the country on a salary so inadequate that he could not

possibly, without a private fortune, maintain “a respectable position in society.” The rest of the book is filled with Statutes and Bills, with short introductions to them. The statutes (which of course are always at hand for any one likely to peruse this book in the ‘Statutes at Large’) should, we think, have been abstracted only, whereby the bulk of this formidable volume would have been greatly decreased.

But the work is also premature. Lord Brougham still lives in health and vigour. That mind which Lord Derby (in the most complimentary sarcasm that was ever uttered) declared far to exceed *sal volatile*, or any other ethereal essence in its pungency, and on which he defied any human power, *even that of the noble lord himself*, to put any effectual stopper of glass, leather, or any other substance, is still active and acute. He may yet supply many “Acts and Bills” to swell this mighty volume.

Lord Brougham has already had the rare satisfaction of reading one obituary notice of himself. The present book is suggestive of such another notice, but we are not desirous of affording it. His greatness, activity, and peculiarities will some day (we trust at a remote period) furnish matter for a history which, if written in a large spirit, will be the social story of England in the present century, for he has assuredly well borne in mind that

Heaven doth with us as we with torches do,
Not light us for ourselves.

His light, which has glared in a somewhat fitful and fantastical manner on his contemporaries, will shine with a steady ray from many noble works on a future generation.

The Dramatic Works of John Webster. Edited by William Hazlitt. Vols. I. and II. (J. R. Smith.)

AN affectionate reverence for the old poets seems a natural taste in one who bears the name of Hazlitt,—and we gladly accept a new impression of the works of a powerful and neglected bard with such a passport on the title-page.

Mr. Smith is laying lovers of old books under obligation by his careful reprints of “Old Authors.” Of the merits which distinguish his editions of Overbury, and Southwell, and of Wither’s Hymns and Songs, Aubrey’s Miscellanies, and Chapman’s *Iliads*, we have already spoken more or less in detail:—not one of these but shows that kindly editorial care which love for the subject can alone secure. Mr. Hazlitt’s reprint of Webster is equal in merit to any of the series; the text being plainly printed, on bright paper, and the difficult words explained without overlapping the sense with tedious archæological discussions.

Mr. Phelps and Miss Glyn have done somewhat, of late years, towards reviving popular interest in the once greatly-admired Author of ‘The White Devil’ and ‘The Duchess of Malfi.’ But the taste for strong situations and poetic horrors is scarcely yet ripe enough in our play-going public to endow such dramas with a new theatrical life. After Cawnpore and Delhi massacres, we may perhaps improve a little; but the interest in Webster will probably remain for some time poetic and archæological rather than popular.

Very little is known of Webster’s life; less perhaps than of Shakspeare’s. Mr. Hazlitt has drawn the few particulars together. Beyond the fact that he wrote plays, nearly everything about him—from the spelling of his name, the date of his birth, to his death and burial—is subject to doubt. Henry Fitzjeffrey’s character of him contains more traits of the dramatist than we obtain from all other sources put together:—

But h'at! with him crabbed (*Webster*),
The play-wright, cart-wright: whether! either ho—
No further. Look as yee'd bee lookt into:
Sit as yoo'd be read: Lord! who wou'd know him?
Was ever man so mang'd with a *Pom*?
See how he draws his mouth avry of late,
How he scrubs: wrings his wreats: scratches his pate;
A *midwife*! helpe? By his *braines colous*
Some Centaure strange: some huge Bucephalus,
Or Pallas (sure) ingendred in his braine,
Strike, Vulcan, with thy hammer once againe.
This is the *crittick* that (of all the rest)
I'de not have view mee, yet I feare him least,
Heer's not a word *curiously* I have writt,
But he'll *industriously* examine it;
And in some 12 months hence (or there about)
Set in a shamefull sheete my errors out.
But what care I? it will be so obscure,
That none shall understand him (I am sure).

Mr. Hazlitt writes of the greater of the plays produced by Webster, with the mint mark of his swift and terrible genius on every page,—namely, —‘Sir Thomas Wyatt,’ ‘The White Devil,’ and ‘The Duchess of Malfi’—in a strain mingling chronology and criticism, quotation and assertion, in a pleasant manner:—

“‘The Historie of Sir Thomas Wyatt’ was, as I have mentioned, presented in the year 1607; in which year also were published the works of our author, in conjunction with Dekker, ‘Westward Hoe’ and ‘Northward Hoe.’ Both of these plays, however, had been at that time on the stage for at least a couple of years. ‘Westward Hoe,’ as Mr. Dyce points out, is thus adverted to in the Prologue to Chapman, Jonson, and Marston’s ‘Eastward Hoe,’ printed in 1605:—

‘Not out of envy, for there’s no effect
Where there’s no cause; nor out of imitation,
For we have evermore been imitated;
Nor out of our contention to do better,
Than that which is oppos’d to ours in title;
For that was good, and better cannot be.
And for the title, if it seem affected,
We might as well have called it, God you good even
Only that eastward, westwards still exceeds;
Honour the sun’s fair rising, not his setting,
Nor,’ &c.

‘Westward Hoe’ and ‘Northward Hoe’ are full,’ writes Mr. Dyce, ‘of life and bustle, and exhibit as curious a picture of the manners and customs of the time as we shall anywhere find. Though by no means pure, they are comparatively little stained by that grossness from which none of our old comedies are entirely free.’ Next, so far as is now known, appeared in print, ‘The White Devil; or, the Tragedy of Paulo Giordano Ursini, Duke of Brachiano; with the Life and Death of Vittoria Corombona, the famous Venetian Curtizan. Acted by the Queen’s Servants at the Phoenix, Drury Lane.’ This was in 1612. When the play had been first acted there are no means of ascertaining; but the author, in his preface, writes as though its production had been inauspicious:—‘Only,’ says he, ‘since it was acted in so dull a time of winter, presented in so open and blank a theatre, that it wanted (that which is the only grace and setting out of a tragedy) a full and understanding auditory.’ We may assume, however, that it was first acted at no distant period antecedent to its publication. It was reprinted in 1631, again in 1665, and again in 1672, in each case in the 4to. form. And well, by ‘its terrible graces,’ did it merit these repeated triumphs. ‘The White Devil’ and ‘The Duchess of Malfi,’ writes my father, ‘upon the whole, perhaps, come the nearest to Shakespeare of anything we have upon record.’ Of ‘The White Devil’ Charles Lamb writes:—‘This ‘White Devil’ of Italy sets off a bad cause so speciously, and pleads with such an innocence resembling boldness, that we seem to see that matchless beauty of her face which inspires such gay confidence into her, and are ready to expect, when she has done her pleadings, that her very judges, her accusers, the grave ambassadors who sit as spectators, and all the court, will rise and make proffer to defend her, in spite of the utmost conviction of her guilt; as the shepherds in ‘Don Quixote’ make proffer to follow the beautiful shepherdess Marcela, “without making any profit of her manifest resolution made in their hearing.”

‘So sweet and lovely does she make the shame
Which, like a canker in the fragrant rose,
Does spot the beauty of their budding name.’

I never saw anything like the funeral dirge in this play for the death of Marcello, except the ditty

which reminds Ferdinand of his drowned father in the ‘Tempest.’ As that is of the water, watery; so this is of the earth, earthy. Both have that intenseness of feeling which seems to resolve itself into the element which it contemplates. In a note on the Spanish Tragedy in the Specimens, I have said that there is nothing in the undoubted plays of Jonson which would authorise us to suppose that he could have supplied the additions to ‘Hieronymo’; I suspected the agency of some more potent spirit. I thought that Webster might have furnished them. They seemed full of that wild, solemn, preternatural cast of grief which bewilders us in the ‘Duchess of Malfi.’ On second consideration, I think this a hasty criticism. They are more like the overflowing griefs and talking distraction of ‘Titus Andronicus.’ The sorrows of the Duchess set inward; if she talks, it is little more than soliloquy imitating conversation in a kind of bravery.’ What Webster wrote between this period and 1613, none, it may be conjectured, now can tell, any more than what he did. In that year we have extant from his pen an elegy on the Prince of Wales, entitled, ‘A Monumental Column, erected to the living Memory of the ever glorious Henry, late Prince of Wales,’ which, although not without merit, might have been written by a much inferior hand. ‘The Duchess of Malfi,’ Webster’s second great play, was first acted, as Malone conjectures, in 1616. It must, at all events, have been acted for some time prior to March 16, 1618–19, for on that day the eminent tragedian Burbadge, who had filled the part of Ferdinand in the play on its first production—as he had filled that of Brachiano in ‘The White Devil’—died. ‘The Duchess of Malfi,’ says Hazlitt, ‘is not, in my judgment, quite so spirited or effectual a performance as ‘The White Devil.’ But it is distinguished by the same kind of beauties, clad in the same terrors. I do not know but the occasional strokes of passion are even profounder and more Shaksperian; but the story is more laboured, and the horror is accumulated to an overwhelming and insupportable height.”

‘The Duchess of Malfi’ has been frequently reprinted. There are known editions of 1622, 1640, 1678, and 1708. Of course, it has been reprinted for the Sadler’s Wells performances.

Two more volumes will complete this compact and careful edition of Webster’s dramatic works.

Tiger Shooting in India; being an Account of Hunting Experiences on Foot in Rajpootana, during the Hot Seasons from 1850–54. By William Rice. (Smith, Elder & Co.)

A gallop over a flat country, when the scent is strong, with a pulling, three-parts thorough-bred horse and a goodly sprinkling of ox-fences, rather stirs the blood. The rush of a “sunder” of wild hog from the jungle side into the open, where yourself and a few other friends of the “snaffle, spur and spear,” are waiting, with throbbing pulse, to single out the boar, is an exhilarating thing. But these excitements are tame compared with the adventures of which we have here the startling chronicle, and which have gained for the author the name of “Tiger Rice.” In fact, Mr. Gordon Cumming has found his match; and though there is certainly considerably more variety of incident in the tale of the African lion-killer, and though he excels the tiger-slayer in descriptive powers, still the one book forms a very good comparison to the other.

In point of danger, which after all is the charmed ingredient that gives the sparkle to the hunter’s life, the pursuit of the tiger has the advantage over the lion-hunt. The Bengal tiger, as he is found in the gloomy recesses of his native jungles, is a beast not inferior in size and strength to the African lion, measuring sometimes over thirteen feet from the snout to the tip of the tail, and possessing a forearm of such tremendous bulk and power, that only those whose veracity is beyond impeachment dare attempt to describe it. The skins of the

two largest tigers slain by our author measured 12 feet 7½ inches and 12 feet 6½ inches in length, that of the largest tigress 11 feet 6 inches, but in the Sundarbans and the Tarai the animal grows to a size even more gigantic. The agility of the tiger is on a par with its strength. It sometimes comes on with a succession of tremendous springs at a speed which renders it difficult for the hunter to take good aim, and with a roar so appalling as to shake the strongest nerves. On one occasion our author measured the spring of a tigress which was struck dead by a fortunate bullet while in mid-air. He found it to be upwards of twenty-one feet from the spot where she took off to where she dropped, and she completely cleared a shrub over seven feet high, which was in her path. As to the terror inspired by the roar of a tiger, when within springing distance, we may take Mr. Rice’s testimony, his nerves being none of the weakest, and yet in one case of unpleasant proximity, he describes the sound as seeming to go in at his heels and out at the crown of his head and as perfectly electrifying him. We ourselves have experienced a similar feeling when in a pitch dark night the stunning roar of this monarch of the Indian jungles has burst upon our ears from the vicinity of a score of yards.

The scene of Mr. Rice’s exploits is that part of Rajpootana which lies between the Chambal and Banás rivers, and within a triangle having a line from Némach to Nasirabad as its base, and lines from those two stations to Gwalior on the east as its sides. As our author descants with the gusto of a true sportsman on the excellence of “the famous covers,” “splendid ravines,” and beautiful patches out of which he occasionally started four or five tigers, and as many bears, to say nothing of panthers and hyenas, one cannot help thinking of the pleasant features a country like this presents for the midnight flight of unarmed fugitives, such as were of late our poor officers and their wives from the very station of Némach, whence Mr. Rice issued on his tiger-slaying tours. Those old lines of Goldsmith—

Where crouching tigers wait their hapless prey
And savage men more murderous far than they,

have indeed been here realized. We fear if this frightful Indian war continues, with its village burnings and wide-spread devastations, many another enthusiastic hunter will be needed to drive back the tiger and panther to their ancient limits. It was a striking circumstance, lately recorded in one of the Indian papers, that a wolf had been seen running in mid-day through the once populous station of Agra, with none to heed or harm it.

But to return to the volume before us—in this part of Rajpootana, then, a country of rock and ravine, of reedy coverts and rushing torrents, the tiger-slayer plied his rifle, and in five successive seasons, with an aggregate of 365 days of actual sport, 98 tigers, 7 panthers, and 51 bears fell before his bullets. Of these two-thirds were killed and a third wounded; but of the latter few, perhaps, survived to do more injury to man. In so many encounters it will not be matter of surprise that the hunter had often hair-breadth ‘scapes. We extract the account of one of these, and it so happens that we can add our testimony to the perfect accuracy of the details.—

“We did not like to waste our time looking for it long, as the evening was coming on, so at once began following up the prints and blood of the big wounded tiger. These we took, with some little difficulty, through a dense patch of thorn-bushes and high grass, for about three hundred yards, keeping all the men well together in a body while we led the way. Presently we came out of this thick jungle on an open space, but here all traces of

the tiger suddenly ceased. Placing a man from time to time up the low trees we passed, to look out all round, Elliot and myself advanced a few paces in front of the men, to more minutely examine the ground for the tracks, before they should be obliterated or trampled over by the feet of so many persons following us. While thus engaged in carefully endeavouring to recover the lost tracks of this wounded tiger, we were startled by a loud roar from a small ditch a few paces on our right. At this time Elliot was stooping down about twenty yards on my left, busily employed in looking for prints. The roar was instantly followed by the tiger, that came charging down at great speed straight for me. I had barely time to fire both barrels of my rifle, at only two or three paces' distance, into her chest, when these shots, or the smoke, caused the beast to swerve past me and make straight for Elliot, whom she at once sprang on, literally before he had time to get his rifle ready. The next moment I saw him falling backwards under the tigress, which was growling and roaring over him fearfully. My 'shikarrees,' with admirable coolness and presence of mind, quickly handed me spare loaded guns. I instantly fired two more shots at the beast's shoulder, as she stood over poor Elliot, but these wounds had little effect, for she at once commenced dragging him backwards, by the upper part of his left arm, which she had seized in her jaws, down a gentle slope, towards the ditch in which she had at first been lying hid. The ground was very uneven, and covered with broken pieces of rock, so I greatly feared to again fire at this tigress lest my friend should be hit instead; for as his face was touching her head, no steady shot could be had at her brain, as she bumped him over these rough stones. Elliot had fainted while the tigress was thus carrying him off. She continued growling all the time, and looked full at us as the rest of the men and I followed at about eight paces' distance, watching to get a clear shot at her head (for it would have been useless to have fired at any other part). At last, after aiming two or three times in vain, there was a chance, when my ball luckily struck her on the top of the skull, whereupon she at once dropped poor Elliot, and rolled over dead on the top of his body, bringing her paw down on his chest. I quickly gave her the other barrel, and then ran in with the rest of the Bheels, and pulled out Elliot by his legs from under the tigress. While she was thus walking him off, the men were greatly excited. On the tigress first charging there was, as usual, a general move backwards for a step, whereby many were upset; but they immediately followed in a body, and much wished me to let them bravely attack the tigress with what arms they had, such as swords, spears, iron-pointed clubs, axes, and bows—especially Elliot's own servant, who, with the best intentions of frightening off the tigress, discharged several guns in the air, regardless of direction, firing them from his hip in the most alarming manner, and loudly protesting that his master was killed; which really did seem likely enough, for he was covered with blood. On our lifting him up, Elliot was quite sensible, and asked for water. He was quickly supplied with a long drink from the 'chagul,' or leathern bag to hold water, which we invariably carried with us out hunting. His arm, which was frightfully bitten, was at once bound up in a long turban, while the men busied themselves in cutting down small trees, from which, with the help of a general contribution of turbans, waist-cloths, and slight green boughs, we formed a sort of litter, and then started for 'Rajghur,' about two and a half miles distant, through the jungle, followed by the rest of the men carrying the dead tigress, which was a very stout fine beast. Elliot, on being first seized, had a narrow escape from a blow she had aimed at him with her paw, which he fortunately guarded off with his uplifted rifle. The stock of the rifle was marked with her claws, while the triggers and guard were knocked completely flat on one side, so that the gun was useless until repaired. The tigress only dragged him about twenty or thirty yards, and the whole 'scrimmage' was over in two or three minutes. From lying hid so close in the deep ditch, which was covered with long grass, the

man placed on the look-out up the tree had failed to observe her, which he must have done had the ground been level. While following up this wounded tigress we several times observed a 'kole balloo,' or old jackal, that trotted on a few score paces in our front."

We may add, that Mr. Elliot's left arm was disabled by this stern encounter, but he is still a lover of what our author truly terms "the most exciting and glorious sport this world affords." We will extract one more curious adventure in which that Minerva of the rash, Good Luck, threw heregis before our author, and secured him from a tiger that seemed actually bullet-proof:—

"We once more gave him the contents of our 'battery'; when the brute rushed forward for a few paces, but then suddenly turned round, and came charging down with fearful roars straight for where we were standing. All the guns being empty, it was now our turn to bolt. Little, Loch, and Forbes, with wonderful agility, sprang up three small trees that happened to be close behind us. For the moment, I could nowhere find a tree; and, in my hurry and confusion, ran down a gentle slope of the bank on which we had been standing, and dived under a shady bush at the bottom of the low hill, out of which I started a hare. Here I remained perfectly still, in the utmost alarm; for, in the panic, I had chosen the most likely spot by which the tiger would pass as he tried to escape us. This dreadful thought only occurred to me while lying under the bush in which I endeavoured to conceal myself. Every moment I expected to see the tiger go by, but most fortunately he pulled up in his charge under the trees up which my three friends had sought safety. Here he continued for some time walking round and round the trees, looking up at his enemies, growling terribly, and lashing his tail in a rage. Luckily he was too much hurt to make a spring. Little treated him rather contemptuously from his secure position, and declared that with a pistol even he could easily have blown out the tiger's brains as he passed so close below his tree. At length the tiger slowly took himself off, and walked back to the very dense patch of jungle out of which he had last broken before we had thus caused him to charge. All this time my friends had repeatedly called out to me, not knowing where I was hiding; but I did not dare answer, for fear the tiger should discover my retreat, when, being utterly unarmed, with the exception of my heavy hunting-knife, there would have been no chance even of escape for me. At last they bawled out that the tiger had gone away, when I joyfully emerged from the thorn-bush, and hastily reloaded my rifle, feeling once more secure. We now all went towards the beaters, and again tried to start this tiger, but could not again make him show himself, though men were sent up very high trees overlooking the thick cover in which he was hiding. It was now getting late, so we reluctantly left the place, hoping to find this tiger dead there on the morrow. Wonderful to relate, when last seen he seemed as fresh as the moment we first started him, and appeared actually invulnerable, for not one drop of his blood could we anywhere discover, although, on afterwards counting over our ammunition, we computed that forty-two bullets (including some guns double-shot) had been fired at this tiger. None of us had ever before met with such a beast seemingly so bullet-proof. We returned to our tents by dusk, much perplexed at this tiger. * * At this time we were rather scattered and walking carelessly over what seemed not the most likely spot to find the tiger in. Little was gathering 'corinda' berries to eat, while Forbes, before being aware of his danger, strolled on within four yards of the tiger, when the brute's ear was observed to move. The alarm was quickly, but silently, given to the rest of our men following behind us. With all the guns and beaters we climbed up a steep bank overlooking the thicket in which the tiger was hiding, and then fired a volley into him quite close, from some high rocks on which we were standing directly over the beast. Up jumped the tiger, and with loud roars he

endeavoured to get out of the small cover; but was quickly rolled over for good by our guns. This brute still seemed quite fresh and active, although, on skinning him, which we at once proceeded to do, no less than twelve of yesterday's bullets were found in his body. These we knew by the marks he had made in licking them with his tongue, clearing off the hair round each shot-hole. A tiger's tongue is remarkably rough and covered with innumerable stout short points of hard flesh, resembling thorns, closely packed together, and lying backwards. With these he easily scrapes off every atom of flesh adhering to the bones of his prey. This tiger measured eleven feet six inches long, and was extremely stout. At the time we found him, he was lying with his body half in some water to allay the pain of his wounds. Over head was a beautiful 'oleander' bush in full blossom. These pretty pink and white flowers are very common in all the jungles about this part of the country. Forbes had rather a narrow escape, had he not been warned in time by my man, of stepping on this crouching tiger."

Such adventures told in handsome large print, with spirited chromo-lithographs to illustrate them, make the volume before us as pleasant reading as any record of sporting achievements we have ever taken in hand. We only regret that Mr. Rice has not given more space to the description of scenery and of the characteristics of the wild tribes who aided him so materially in the chase. We should like to hear something more of the Bheels and their traditions, of the old crumbling forts, once the strongholds of chivalrous Rajput chieftains, and now the lair of wild beasts, under whose ruinous walls the tiger-slayer sought his quarry. Digressions on such subjects would have relieved the monotony of the narrative. Thus, at page 82, we are told of a strange custom among the Bheels of leaving their sick on the jungle side among the savage denizens of the forest. It is hinted too that these wild men will only slay the tiger when his ravages grow too annoying to be endured. All this has reference to the strange theory of transmigration.

We note, too, some curious circumstances relating to the chase itself. In Rajputana it is only in the three months of the hot season that tiger hunting is possible. Then when the waters dry up, and the verdure and leaves are scorched into dust, the wild beasts are compelled to seek the river side or the margin of the pool, and at such spots the hunter is sure to meet his prey. The exact reverse of this obtains in South India, in the great forests of the Ghâts. There during the hot weather a deadly miasma renders the jungle inaccessible, and the heaps of withering leaves would give by their crackling noise a speedy warning of the hunter's approach. But we have said enough, we hope, to induce any lover of the chase to consult Mr. Rice's book.

The Useful Metals and their Alloys, &c.; with their Applications to the Industrial Arts.
(Houlston & Wright.)

It is a strange fact, that although the annual mineral wealth of the United Kingdom far exceeds that of Europe, there does not exist in the English language any complete or reliable work on the mining or the metallurgical industries of the country. In the French language there are several valuable works on Metallurgy, and two or three excellent ones on Mining; and Germany can show many books on both subjects, which are, at the same time, scientific and practical.

It is not easy to account for this; probably it may be, that the actual British miner or the English metallurgist has been too actively engaged in his works to write books; and the man of science has scarcely been sufficiently practical to do so with credit. Nevertheless, here is a

want which should be supplied. Foreigners and students are continually inquiring for some practical treatises on these subjects, and we have not in the language one book embracing them which can be recommended.

Of the book before us, it may be as well to give the entire title—"The Useful Metals and their Alloys: including Mining, Ventilation, Mining Jurisprudence, and Metallurgic Chemistry employed in the conversion of Iron, Copper, Tin, Zinc, Antimony, and Lead Ores; with their Applications to the Industrial Arts," by John Scoffern, M.B., William Truran, C.E., William Clay, Robert Oxland, William Fairbairn, F.R.S., W. C. Aitkin, and William Vose Pickett. Notwithstanding this very comprehensive title,—the array of names which we have given, and those are not all, according to the preface, who have been employed upon the book,—we are compelled, after a very careful examination of its contents, to pronounce it to be a most unequal production, containing some useful sections, but being very imperfect as a whole.

It would have been wise on the part of the publishers if they had stated, that Wm. S. Orr & Co. projected a periodical publication, to be called 'Orr's Circle of the Industrial Sciences,' and that several gentlemen were engaged to write short separate treatises for this work: that those treatises, having no direct connexion with each other, have now been taken, and badly dovetailed into one another, to make the volume under consideration. This would have enabled the reader to understand why, in Chapter I., Dr. Scoffern has described sundry matters and processes connected with the metallurgy of iron, which are again taken up by some unnamed hand in Chapter xiv., it being stated in the preface that Mr. Truran, to whom the subject of iron is professedly committed, "is not answerable for the papers on the recently patented processes described in Chapter xiv., nor for the opinions expressed respecting them." Dr. Scoffern has also dealt with the Chemistry of Iron in his first four chapters, and we have no fault to find with the manner in which he has treated the subject; while in Chapter xv. we have some writer speaking of "Iron and Molybdene,"—and we are told that "the molybdures of iron are in every respect the analogues of tungstures of iron"; and we have numerous other examples, proving that the author of this chapter is singularly ignorant of the subject on which he is writing; and that he has attempted a translation from French and German papers, which he imperfectly understands.

Mr. Fairbairn's section is, as might be expected, well executed;—a fair practical exemplification of the applications of Iron to Ordnance—Machinery—Bridges—and to House and Ship Building. Messrs. Clay, Oxland, and Aitkin, as far as we can judge,—this judgment being dependent on our power of separating their communications from the mass,—have contributed much valuable matter. "The chapters on Mining, Mining Ventilation and Jurisprudence, were written for the work by a Government Inspector of Mines." We regret this, because however well acquainted the writer may be with the modes of working and ventilating a colliery, it is clear that he has not the practical knowledge necessary to enable him to write—and he does write dogmatically—on the methods of working metalliferous mines.

Many very instructive chapters could be selected from 'The Useful Metals,' but as they stand at present in this work they lose some of their value.

Cumberland and Westmorland, Ancient and Modern: the People, Dialect, Superstition and Customs. By J. Sullivan. (Kendal Hudson; London, Whittaker & Co.)

THE *Maxima Cæsariensis*, that north-west portion of our ancient land, is still a favourite and a fertile field for explorers, whether they trace therein the aboriginal possessor, or the lord by conquest, or look for vestiges of the hardy Norseman or the enduring Celt. The pearls of Cumberland were once as famous as that very different commodity, black-lead, of which, in days gone by, one locality in the county, near Keswick, was said to be the sole and exclusive supplier of all Europe. There are still speculators who smart for meddling with Cumberland copper, which it once furnished in abundance. For the almost cessation of this supply Fuller adduces a reason,—“Probably,” he says, “the burying of so much steel in the bowels of men during the late civil wars, hath hindered the digging of copper out of the entrails of the earth.”

Cumberland was the paradise of moss-troopers, who, perhaps, were indebted for their lucky raids to the two county saints, of whom one, St. Alkike, was seen by another saint ascending to heaven in the shape of a sphere. The county had, at least, as good a man to boast of as either of those saints in blind old Grindall, who founded the “fair free school in St. Bees”; and in Hutton, of the Common Pleas, whom Charles could not but call the “honest Judge,” albeit he opposed “Ship money.” But, indeed, when we talk of patron saints and honest men about bonny Carlisle, what are any of them to gentle George Porter, who was as brave as he was gentle, and who was styled, by his contemporaries of the 17th century, “the patron of infirmities,” for the very good reason that he never heard of a human failing in a man but he endeavoured to find an excuse for it? Brave old Porter! Pity it is that whatever may have become of his line and lineage, the fashion of their ancestor is pretty well extinct,—except in modern reviews!

Westmorland has its ground for boasting too,—at least, if it be worth while to boast of Uto Pendragon, who had a seat here, and who could do pretty well as he liked with everything save the river Eden. He was hardly more haughty, however, than the Viponts, the hereditary lords of the county, till only an heiress of the line remained, and then Lord Clifford obtained from Edward the First the hereditary shrievalty of the county, in return for his marrying Sibyl, the daughter of Lord Robert. But we must leave dwelling on the great illustrations of this ancient county, the Bambridges, the Potters, the pedantic Kendals, and the divine or martial Gilpins, to consider Mr. Sullivan's book.

This unpretending volume treats of the Celtic and mixed colonizations of Cumberland and Westmorland,—saying little of the Norse element, but much of its antiquities and traditions. It gives nearly a quarter of its space to the dialect; and an amusing chapter on superstitions and customs, fairies and fire-worship, apparitions and anniversaries, giants, monuments, holy wells and witchcraft. The following passages will show something of the quality of the author. Speaking of the Celtic colonization of these counties, he observes:—

“These first settlers, the pioneers of British civilization, were partly a pastoral people, and partly subsisted on hunting and fishing. In them we see a tendency to avoid the valleys, and, for permanent residences, to seek the highest ground, suited to their occupations. The reasons are obvious: the valleys were impenetrable thickets, and pestilential marshes,—the high grounds were healthier, and less obstructed by forest. Those

traces of the plough that have been observed on hills and commons uncultivated even at the present day belong to this early period, and show that agriculture had made progress on the lands of the first colonists. But the phenomenon has remained a puzzle to the latest times, and on it has been founded the popular story, that it was laid as a penance on King John's subjects during the interdict, to till no inclosed fields, or lands ordinarily cultivated, for the space of a year and a day. The Cambro-Celtic colonists, having migrated altogether from the north and west coasts of Gaul, landed on the south and south-west of Britain. Just as we trace the Hiberno-Celts on the east coast, so do we find the Cambro-Celts on the west. In Cornwall, North Wales, and Lancashire, they were the explorers of the seashore, Liverpool and Lancaster being of their foundation.”

Without very much love for the Norsemen, Mr. Sullivan, nevertheless, does justice to the Dane.—

“Penrith, in Cumberland, is a remarkable instance of the Danish mode of colonization. This place remained a Cambro-Celtic settlement, with, of course, a considerable population, until the honest Danes ‘made their own’ of it, as we find by the names with which the interior of the town abounds. Nevertheless, together with this unfortunate want of discrimination in affairs of property, the Dane possessed many good qualities that it is useless any longer to deny, at least in England. Chief of these was the disposition to unite with those about him, which must have peculiarly fitted him to be the colonist of a distracted country, such as England was for a length of time. The fusion is not so apparent in Cumbria, though the points of junction with the other peoples are sufficiently numerous. Celts and Danes have united in many places, the most remarkable of which is Oughterby (Upperby); Danes and Angles, at Skirwith and Dalston (the town in the dale); Danes and Saxons, at Askham, Hackthorpe, Dallah (dale-ham), and Kempeley, near Penrith, and in Westmorland. But there was also in the Dane a stubborn, restless individuality, contrasting with the easy, centralizing disposition of the Saxon, that must have exercised a wholesome influence on the laws and constitution of the country. Without granting all that Prof. Worsaae claims for his countrymen, there can scarcely be any doubt that to the Danes we owe our system of by-laws, Scotch bir-laws (D. *by, byr*, a town), that is, laws made for a town, perhaps the most valuable part of our present mode of government.”

Into the controversy that might be based upon some of this author's assertions we will not be tempted to enter; but preferring to show how he illustrates, either by his own wit, or that of others duly acknowledged, meanings of words that have hitherto baffled most interpreters, we cite the following:—

“*DURDOM* (N. *dyradomr*, a door-doom), an uproar or loud noise, a noisy scolding. ‘What a durdom!’ said an old woman when she first saw a railway train in motion. This origin has been suggested in a recent work: ‘We have a curious record of one of the judicial proceedings of the Northmen in our word ‘durlem,’ or ‘durdom,’ common also to some part of Yorkshire. I take this word to be from Old Norse *dyradomr*, thus explained by Mallet: ‘In the early part of the (Icelandic) commonwealth, when a man was suspected of theft, a kind of tribunal composed of twelve persons named by him, and twelve by the person whose goods had been stolen, was instituted before the door of his dwelling, and hence called a door-doom: but as this manner of proceeding generally ended in bloodshed, it was abolished.’”

Some traces of fire-worship still exist in the Needfire, for curing cattle and also rheumatic wives of thick-headed northern farmers. The fires have survived the fairies,—the date of whose disappearance is very logically established.—

“For some time no fairies have been seen in this district, and in one part of Westmorland, indeed, the date of their departure hence is known.

An inhabitant of Martindale, Jack Wilson by name, was one evening crossing Sandwick Rigg on his return home, when he suddenly perceived before him, in the glimpses of the moon, a large company of fairies intensely engaged in their favourite diversions. He drew near unobserved, and presently descried a stee (ladder) reaching from amongst them up into a cloud. But no sooner was the presence of mortal discovered than all made a hasty retreat up the stee. Jack rushed forward, doubtless firmly determined to follow them into fairy-land, but arrived too late. They had effected their retreat, and quickly drawing up the stee, they shut the cloud and disappeared. And in the concluding words of Jack's story, which afterwards became proverbial in that neighbourhood, 'yance gane, ae gane, and niver saw mair o' them.' The grandson of the man who thus strangely witnessed this last apparition of the fairies, himself an old man, was appealed to not long ago on the truth of this tradition. Having listened attentively to the account of it already printed, he declared, 'It was a' true, however, for he heard his grandfather tell it many a time.'

Mr. Sullivan's volume is not a large one, but it is skilfully put together. There is something in it for both general reader and antiquarian inquirer,—and what is written for the former is very well adapted to make of him the latter.

History of Mexican and Central-American Civilization before the Time of Columbus.—[*Histoire des Nations Civilisées du Mexique et de l'Amérique-Centrale, &c.*] By the Abbé Brasseur de Bourbourg. 2 vols. (Paris, Bertrand.)

THE erudite researches which the Abbé Brasseur de Bourbourg has for the last ten years been pursuing into Mexican and pre-Columbian antiquity have been already indicated to our readers through the interesting correspondence of Messrs. Squier and Trübner. The actual labours, discoveries, and historic results now invite and task scientific opinion, the *savant* himself having set before the world all the strange details of his story,—from the very earliest period when the thought of Mexico lay cramped and hybernant in the egg, until, under the proper degree of encouragement, it was incubated and fostered into the form before us. The Preface succinctly recounts the various stages. How native Bourbourg damped, and Garcilaso and Conti and Del Rio enkindled, and Champollion's success fanned into flame, his own Central American idea,—how the Abbé thrice crossed the Atlantic, pored over *codices* in the Vatican, conferred with wise men in France, in Boston, in Washington,—how he became missionary, professor, student of English,—what a friend he found in M. Le Vasseur, the French minister to Vera Cruz, whose kindly offices—truth obliges him to state—M. Nicholas Trübner is, no doubt, unwittingly mistaken in attributing to the Duc de Valmy. In fact, it was in M. Le Vasseur's carriage he jolted over the lava-beds and under the pine-forests of Xalapa, and cleaving the tropical sky and suppressing their furnace-fires, first saw the twin snow-peaks that bar the pass into the great valley of Anahuac. Thenceforward his philological labours begin. In the National Museum of Mexico he finds the famous MS. of Father Ximenes translated from the Quiché, or Old Mexican language. Priority of discovery Dr. Carl Scherzer claims, but the Abbé only concedes priority of sight, and even impugns the accuracy of the Doctor's translation. The point is of secondary importance. The Abbé's mastery of the subject appears indisputable. He has acquired with a vast amount of pains the Nahuatl or Mexican language, and draws his knowledge, not from translated, but original documents. What de-

fects exist in one MS. he supplies from others,—from the Boturini Collection, to which M. Aubin has given him access, and unedited Mexican and Spanish authorities. He has noted down from the lips of Indians he has lived with for days together a vast roll of traditions,—he has observed their histrionic "battles" or dances,—mused over their religious rites,—scrutinized their Oriental costumes,—copied their pictorial and phonetic writing,—scored their music,—and visited all the terraced earthen mounds and sculptured rocks that crown the hills or darken the plains from the Mississippi to the Gulf of Mexico. His romantic journeyings and economic vicissitudes are parenthetically recorded,—how he slept under a canopy of tropical blooms, and dreamed by the thunder of waterfalls,—how with a gleaming *machete* he cut his way through the woods, and picked it in the company of a prudent mule,—how he refilled the void in his purse with the loss of his Mexican vocabulary,—how, in the interest of science and under a stimulus which is said to be the mother of invention, he wrote on topics for which he had little inclination,—and on one occasion parted with a possession which a missionary holds, after science, the dearest, his *chappelle portative*, or sacerdotal *vade-mecum*. Good fortune came at last. In 1855 he was appointed to the *cura* of Rabinal, in the department of Vera-Paz, the region made illustrious by Las Casas. The *savant* found a country to his mind, fuliginous, weird, fantastic,—volcanoes always in the background, ruins always in the foreground, of his scenery,—yawning volcanic chasms if he ascended the terraced hills,—ruins if he wended his way along the delta-like lowlands or roved over the vast up-heaved plateaus. Ruins of a strange shape and type, the symbols of some ancient worship as problematical as the race that had graven, or inscribed, or reared them. They were to be counted by thousands in the valleys, amid the gloom of woods, on solitary hill-tops, on the shores of silent shimmering lakes. The roots of centenary celibas or the arms of knotted vines had won entrance through the hallowed inclosure, and the fronds of shining bananas reared arches that looked like Nature's triumph over man's obsolete architecture. The names of the actual rivers and the cities,—the haze of mythic light that still fluttered round the visible hills,—the half-inspired traditions still repeated by Indians credulous against the progress of time,—the tales of cities girt round with walls of a legendary grandeur, and barred by gates of Indian dimensions, which it would be death for a white man to approach, lest at the echo of his foot the gorgeous dream should evanesce,—all this offered more than ordinary temptations to antiquarian conquest. Who were this people whose signs and symbols were everywhere?—whose pyramidal temples, whose serpent-like mounds, whose spiral pillars, whose cones and ovals and parallelograms of stone and earth, whose pictured calendars, whose double bas-reliefs in stucco and colour, the foundations of whose cities and the boundaries of whose empire, were visible from the Atlantic to the Pacific, from Mexico to Guatemala? This race, which was called indiscriminately Toltec, Quiché, Aztec, Tzendal, Maya,—whose chief cities were Tula, Palenque, Mayapan,—the area of whose dominion extended over modern Mexico, Tabasco, Chiapa, Oaxaca, Yucatan, Guatemala, San Salvador, and Honduras,—whose civilization, as displayed in their fluted temples, in their painting, their writing, the records of their arts and laws and manufactures, infinitely surpassed all that can be inferred from known Indian tribes? Was it exotic or indigenous?—a graft off an Asiatic

stock, or did it assimilate with its structure Scandinavian and other ingredients?

The Abbé Brasseur, in his solitude at Rabinal, as he cross-examined his copper-coloured parishioners, turned over Spanish theories, conned Quiché inscriptions, and, as he tells us, sliced indigenous roots to compose his daily *Julienne*, had ample opportunity to consider the hue, lineage, and aliment of the Aztec civilization. All the traditions tended to indicate an Asiatic immigration from the North-east, the district possibly adjacent to Lake Baikal and the borders of the Irtysh. Invariably the records spoke of the early colonists having come from the land of sun-rise, through a tract of ice where winter reigned, and there was deep shadow. Looking at the map, the Abbé found that by Behring's Strait, or by the Aleutian and Kurile Islands, where the way is, as it were, marked by a line of natural buoys to the American mainland, the Asiatic colonists might have journeyed, remembering how not long ago a Japanese junk had been drifted out of her reckoning, and brought in with her crew to San Francisco. The physiognomy of the race, though clearly of one family, and seeming to denote a Mongolian type, was not decisive,—the language, in spite of its variety of roots, though presenting the same physiognomical likeness, was equally unsatisfactory. What light was to be had could only be reflected from actual Quiché records. A Scandinavian element the Abbé is not averse to, recalling the pre-Columbian antiquity of the Newfoundland cod-fishery. Lord Kingsborough's derivative colonization from the ten captive Jewish tribes he peremptorily dismisses, while conceding traces of Jewish or Egyptian type in living or painted Mexican profiles and the singularity of an Arabic costume common to the men, and a Jewish to the women, that frequent the markets of Palin and dwelt near the Lake of Atitlan. He is favourable to the theory which educes Mexican civilization from the North, and conducts it up to the intertropical regions as its climax and centre, noting the absence of cereals before the advent of Columbus and the restriction of the colonists to maize, yams, arrowroot, and a kind of bean which the Spaniards called *frijoles*.

The earliest Toltec, Tzendal, or Quiché traditions recount the introduction of agriculture and religion by a chief or demigod, who is called by the names Votan, Cucumatz, Cukulcan, Quetzalcohuatl,—terms which have the same signification—"feathered serpent"—and seem to stand for the same person or religious symbol. This leader founded the first city—Palenque—whose ruins the traveller admires, on the slope of the hills of Tunbala, in the state of Chiapa. The plain below, in the early time, was a lake, that discharged its waters into that *fabulosus amnis* which now only floats log-wood and mahogany and cedar rafts, the Usumasinta. The Mexican theogony has its triads, like the Hindú; its supreme deity, to whom no temples or statues are raised, whom sages only invoke, whose essence is unknown, "the god of all purity," Hunab-ku-Teotl, evidently a form of Brahma, and a civilizing, beneficent, incarnate demigod, whose names we have given above, to whom flowers and fruits are offered, who appears to us strangely to resemble Buddha. The Quiché genesis thus opens:—

When all that was to be created was finished, the heaven formed, its angles measured and ruled, its boundaries fixed, lines and parallels put in their place in heaven and on earth, the heaven was created, and it was called heaven by the creator and the maker, by the *mother and the father of life and existence*, by him through whom all moves

and breathes, the father and preserver of the peace of his people, the father of his subjects, the mother of thought and wisdom, the supreme of all that is in heaven and on earth, in the lakes and on the sea. That was his name when all was calm and still, when nothing moved in the void of heaven.

A series of creators, or *demiurgi*, appear to create man. Their names are remarkable:—"The drawer of the speaking-trumpet to the raven; the drawer of the speaking-trumpet to the fox; the green-feathered serpent; the beast of the lake and of the sea." A description follows very like a passage from the 'Voluspa,' describing chaos,—how that there were "no men, nor beasts, nor birds, no fishes, no shell-fish, nor woods, nor stones, nor *bogs*, nor valleys, nor herbs; only the sky." There was the sea and the sky, but nothing moved or stood upright. Out of the darkness Gucunatz appeared. A trinity came forth to make man.—Hurakan (hurricane?), Thunder, and Lightning. At their word, the earth comes forth like a mist, and the mountains rise up like lobsters on the water. The first two attempts to make man fail. The clay of which he is made melts with the rain, and Gucunatz and the assembled creators call the chiefs of magic. They trace circles and throw lots of *tzi-te* (a tree which the Indians still use to cast lots with) and grains of maize, with invocations of the sun. The result is, that man is to be made of wood, woman of pith. The creation does not speed. The creatures are heavy, wanting mobility and grace. Their hands, feet, and features are dry and wan. The wooden man has no tongue to praise his maker nor to utter wise things. *Ex ligno fuit lignea*. The issue is wooden and unpleasing. The heart of Heaven is displeased. It rains day and night; men climb on the house tops, but the houses topple; they climb the trees, but the trees shake them off; they fly into the caverns, and are shut in alive. By way of record of the wooden epoch, the creators preserve a chosen few—the little beings commonly called apes, that live in the woods. A creative council is again held as to what can make the blood of man, and the issue is the discovery of maize, cocoa, and honey.

We omit excerpts from parallel Tzendal and Yucatec records, which place the coming of Votan to Chiapa, from a land that is supposed to be Cuba, at a period equivalent to 955 a.c., we omit the worship of Kab-ul, or the working-hand, and the Tapir worship of Yucatan, still recalled in the Indian *bayles* of Rabinal, which Mr. Squier views as one among many Mexican symbols of an occult form of phallic worship. Palenque, the Aztec capital, is described at length. It was built on the slope of a rocky hill so as to afford an asylum to the inhabitants when the waters rose. The streets were laid out on the side of the streams that brawled down the hill. The city itself (according to the Abbé,—who, if we recollect right, widely differs from Stephens) covered an area of 7 or 8 leagues along a flowery plain, which sank down to a broad river, between which and the hill rose up a kingly palace. 240 feet in length and 60 feet high, approached by a flight of gigantic steps, and entered by five gates, leading to a colonnade sculptured in figures in bas-relief, and indicating different periods of architecture. Among the symbols was one in the form of a cross or a Greek tau, that has piqued antiquarian speculation. The walls were stuccoed and toned with oxide of iron; but the vermillion and blue and the designs, so remarkable a characteristic of the old Mexican ruins, were not found at Palenque. A bridge with a convex arch and an aqueduct exhausted its marvels. The capacity of the Mexican, or

Toltec, language is next discussed,—how it is comprehensive enough for natural and moral science, music, and every-day life, and that Europeans unconsciously adopt and incorporate its terms. Mexican numeration follows,—and a disquisition on the sacred 7, 13, and 20, common in their religious and astronomical computations. The remarkable migration of the Nahoas is next related, in whose days "white men and black lived in peace,—there were many languages, but they understood each other." They worshipped the sun and the morning star, and they paid no tribute. A band under the guidance of Tanaub, or Tamub, the plural of Dan, in Genesis = serpent, weary of this indolent life, got out and landed at Panuco, a river near the principal Mexican sea-port. Quetzalcohuatl came with them—he who had charge of the sacred envelope or talisman, a piece of wood containing a green stone engraved with the name of the divinity. It was wrapped round with serpent's or tiger's skin. The worship was performed in darkness. Instead of trumpets, the sacrificers blew vast sea-shells to announce the hour of festival, and presented themselves at the altar with spikes of aloes stained with their own blood; and, however cold it was, rose at midnight to perform their ablutions.

The emigration of another Toltec bard, from a mysterious Oriental city, called Tulan, is specially noteworthy,—how they fled, the fear of the pursuers' sword behind them, full of anguish, having no bread and nothing to suck but pieces of sweet wood. They came to the shore of the sea and knew not how to cross. According to one account, they rolled the rocks in; according to another, with long staffs, they pushed the strand far into the sea and made a wall and crossed over.

The second volume deals with the vague details of Toltec chronology, collates kindred traditions, and learnedly discourses upon the costumes, the laws, the civil institutions, the superstitions and semi-Christian rites of the Central American tribes. The wanderings of the Quiché bands among the sierras of Guatemala are exceedingly picturesque. The snow-flakes fell so fast that the fire which had been lit was soon quenched. The people in their misery cried to the God Tohil, who struck the ground with his heel and the fire gushed out of his shoe. A band of nomads, who had parted company, spied the gleam of the fire through the trees, and the light cheered them. Their teeth chattered, their hands and feet were frozen, they dared scarce put the branches aside from cold. "Is it an evil thing," said they to the guardians of the light, "to beg a little of your fire?" There was none that answered. "Do you not understand us?" they asked again. "Are we confused? when we came out from Tulan we spoke one language—our birth and our teaching were the same." Sadly the main band answered. "We did ill to separate the one from the other in the great forests." So they asked Tohil what should be done. "Let them give up their side (heart) to me," said the god. "I only require it by little and little." The answer was given. "It is good," said the tribe. "Let us join ourselves again—we will obey you." So they had the fire and were warm.

We cannot enlarge further on this interesting work, nor discuss its romantic legends, its picture writing, or its strange ethnological and archaic lore. The able Brasseur has achieved such a Toltec victory that he is fairly entitled henceforward to adopt "a green-plumed serpent" as his crest.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

The Forsters: a Novel. By Marguerite A. Power. 2 vols. (Newby.)—"The Forsters" has the first great merit in a novel—that of being interesting. It contains one or two scenes that are powerfully drawn, and the interest of the book, though too much diffused and too straggling, continues to the end, and there is a dash of humour in the description of Mrs. Forster and her maladies, which is pleasant to meet with. The story is not well compacted—it is jerking and unequal. There are characters introduced and elaborately discussed who have no influence on the progress of events; whilst, on the other hand, portions of the story are slurred over that might have been worked out and detailed with advantage. The whole of Lady Ferrier's married life, for instance, which brings about the tragical catastrophe, is introduced too crudely, and treated too compendiously, yet it might have been worked up in no more pages than it occupies as it now stands; there is too much of the Book of Beauty about the heroine, and we might go on to find other faults, but the fact would still remain, that it is an interesting novel, and novel-readers may send for it with confidence.

Moss-Side. By Marion Harland. (Routledge & Co.)—The authoress of 'Alone' and the 'Hidden Path' has in the present story made progress: the language is more simple—the sentiment more sober—and the description of the heroine's fascinations is less fantastic. All that excellent example and good advice can do towards making the tale eligible reading for young people has been done, and the book is as readable as small ill-conditioned type will allow; but there is a want of freshness and vigour. The present growth of American stories of the "improving" class are all varieties of the 'Queechy' model. Lady Morgan was complaining bitterly one day of the general run of modern novels—that nobody seemed to have any sense of humour, and that all *fun* was dead! A sense of humour is one of the most cardinal virtues of the intellect. Where it exists not, all other graces will be dull and artificial—not spontaneous, and the best works will be like dusty suburban gardens, with a rookery built in the middle to stand for the sublime. The virtues that are brought trite and trim into small didactic tales—the Vade-Mecums of life and conversation, in the highest and sternest subjects that are to be found, "made easy and reduced to practice" in this class of stories, of which 'Moss-Side' is a favourable specimen, are simply exasperating alike to readers and critics, who know the stuff of which life is made, and who prefer taking their portion of rue in its own bitterness, rather than in the sickly conserve with which modern tale-writers attempt to conceal its wholesome taste. We sigh for dear 'Goody Two-shoes' and the history of 'Miss Betsy Thoughtless,' which even Baron Grunm found charming. There is one point, however, in modern stories which curiously marks a gradually increasing change of opinion:—the heroine, although in compliance with time-honoured custom she is married and made happy at last,—it is generally late in life and after she has steadily realized the prospect of giving up her lover and living unmarried;—it is a fact recognized, that a woman may be both happy and—interesting, to the most advanced period of single blessedness. This is a change in the ethics of romance which "gives to think," as the French have it, and is as important a discovery in its way, as the fascinations of the "*femme à trente ans*" was to Balzac.

Dissimulation: a Novel. 3 vols. By the Author of 'The Wilderness of the World.' (Newby.)—The chief story which gives its name to the work is the story of a young lady, who, to obtain rank and position, simulates love for an elderly and most unlovable baronet; and who refuses a very handsome but penniless lover, whom, in all other respects, she much prefers. She makes a good wife from bad motives, till such time as her old lover reappears with a coronet and large fortune; when her powers of patience and dissimulation alike give way, and she gives a course of poison to her husband, which ends by killing him under unsuspected symptoms. There is an attempt to

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give an air of Italian romance and mystery to this outline; and there is a curious jumble of characters—common-place, vulgar, rich, and picturesque villains—who would become the style and age of Caesar Borgia. The human nature is painted in charcoal and yellow-ochre, with a dash of vermilion and rose-pink for sentiment. 'Dissimulation' is an evident descendant from the old novels that used to delight the days of our childhood, when "a sea-port in Hungary" did not distress our geographical sensibilities,—when villains were allowed to scowl and wear daggers, and the good heroine always went in "snowy drapery." Those who like such reading may find it here.

Life in Israel; or, Portraits of Hebrew Character. By Maria T. Richards. (New York, Sheldon & Co.; London, Trübner & Co.)—To portray Jewish life without writing a Scripture history is a plan, not novel indeed, but promising. If well executed, the habits, the religious observances, and the opinions current in Israel at a certain period may be sketched in a manner equally popular and satisfactory. Notices scattered throughout the Bible may be collated, and the information given by contemporary or later historians brought to bear on the elucidation of such a period. Suppose all this correctly done, and some interesting fiction taken as the groundwork, and we do not despair of finding books on Jewish antiquities as attractive as they may be useful. An example of what may be done in this respect is the well-known work, 'Helen's Pilgrimage to Jerusalem,' a book as interesting as, with few exceptions, it is accurate and instructive. In the volume before us, Mrs. Richards follows up, or rather prefaces, her former 'Life in Judea,' by sketches of Hebrew character during the wanderings through the wilderness, in the reign of King Solomon, and during the Babylonish captivity. The task has, upon the whole, been well executed. Though the information of our authoress has manifestly been gathered at second hand, it is generally accurate, if not always full: the interest attaching to the stories is well sustained; and the reader has a sufficiently vivid portraiture of Jewish life under each of the above periods. However, it has struck us, that sometimes the persons introduced think and act like natives of the West rather than as genuine Orientals, and that the state of society and of public religious opinion,—not to speak of the occasional high-flown expressions used,—are rather such as we would expect among our Transatlantic cousins than at the period and in the countries to which these tales refer. The second of the sketches ('Life in Israel under the Reign of King Solomon') is decidedly the most lively and the most accurate, although it occasionally recalls scenes and incidents from 'Helen.' But our authoress deserves encouragement and praise, and her volume promises to be a useful addition to our popular religious literature.

An Analysis of the Domesday-Book of the County of Norfolk. By the Rev. George Manford. (J. E. Smith.)—William the Conqueror and Sir Henry Ellis have supplied much food for the local historian,—the former by issuing the commission which resulted in the Blue Books known by the name of Domesday; the latter by his laborious study of these volumes, which bore fruit in the shape of his well-known 'General Introduction to Domesday,' without which the information in these books would have been comparatively inaccessible. Sir Henry modestly assumes to have done no more than open the way to a knowledge of the contents of Domesday; and the author of the present book has taken advantage of this opening, and given an analysis of its contents as they relate to the county of Norfolk. He appears to have executed his task with care, and has produced a work not only of local but of general interest.

The Natural History of the Tineina. Vol. II. By H. T. Stainton, assisted by Prof. Zeller and J. W. Douglas. (Van Voorst.)—"After an interval of two years," says the author in his Preface, "this second volume of 'The Natural History of the Tineina' issues from the press"; and he adds, "that it is anticipated that there will now be no difficulty in producing a volume annually." In the *Athenæum* for December 22, 1855, we gave a

somewhat lengthened notice of the first volume of this elaborate work, and the second volume affords us every reason to repeat the favourable opinion of its execution which we then expressed. There are the same laborious carefulness, the same acute discrimination, the same correct and pleasing account of the habits of several of the species; and the engravings are even more beautiful, if possible, than in the former volume. But to what age are the present students of this branch of entomology expected to live and study in order to avail themselves of the whole of the work? On the former occasion we spoke of the twenty years which would be occupied in its publication; but we really cannot help thinking that thirty or forty will be more likely to be the period during which the annual or biennial volumes must regularly appear, before the whole of the species will be described, at the present rate of twenty-four to each. We sincerely wish Mr. Stainton life and health and eye-sight to complete the work, and that the long succession of printers and artists who may be engaged in its production may be as eminent as those who are at present contributing so effectually to its beauty and completeness; and with respect to the appearance of the last volume of all, we repeat with fervour the wish of the narrator of John Gilpin's far-famed adventure, "may we be there to see"!

The Structure and Functions of the Eye illustrative of the Power, Wisdom, and Goodness of God. By Spencer Thomson, M.D. (Groombridge & Sons.)—As a study illustrative of design in the world there is, perhaps, no object that affords so good an example in so small a space as the human eye. The laws which govern the movements of the planets through space around a central sun are simplicity itself compared with the complicated adaptations necessary to make the human eye the medium of conveying a knowledge of the external world to the mind. On this account few subjects have been studied more thoroughly by the natural theologian and the philosopher than the anatomy and physiology of the eye. The philosophical study of the eye has enriched science with brilliant discoveries in the nature of light and its properties, and has led to the inventions which have almost perfected the two most important instruments used by man—the telescope and the microscope. Dr. Thomson in this little book looks at the eye from the theological point of view, and endeavours to bring out in all their force those minute adaptations in the structure of the eye to the reception of light and the formation of pictures of external objects, which demonstrate the "power, wisdom, and goodness of God." Dr. Thomson does not profess to have made any new discoveries in this region of research; but he has the merit of having written a book upon it in such a manner that it cannot fail to interest those who peruse it, and will probably draw them on to study further illustrations of the wisdom hid in creation, and in which all branches of natural knowledge abounds.

Description of a New Mollusk from the Red Sandstone near Pottsville. By Isaac Lea. (Philadelphia, Merriken.)—A description of *Cypriocardia Leidyi*, by Dr. Lea of Philadelphia.

The first volume of a new and cheap edition of Lord Macaulay's *History of England* is issued by the Messrs. Longman, printed in handy shape, on good paper, with fair type and pleasant margins.—*White Lies* is the title of a French story by Mr. C. Reade, reproduced from one of the penny journals, the readers of which, it is said, have not appreciated "the French theme, French sources, and French idioms."—Messrs. Smith & Elder have printed for the benefit of collectors of Mr. Thackeray's works a new edition of *Esmond*, corresponding with the "Miscellanies" of that gentleman.—The same publishers have given us cheap editions of Miss Brontë's *Shirley* and *Jane Eyre*.—Messrs. Griffin & Co. have brought out in a separate volume Sir John Stoddart's *Glossology*.—Messrs. Routledge have published new impressions of Mr. Bell's *Ladder of Gold*,—and Mr. Knighton's *Private Life of an Eastern King*.—A cheap edition of Wordsworth's *Poems*, in one volume, has appeared from the press of Messrs. Gall & Co.—In "The Parlour Library," we have *The Young Widow*, by R. M. Daniels,—in "The Amusing Library," *The Demon*

of Gold, by H. Conscience,—and in "Blackwood's London Library," a third translation of *Debtor and Creditor*.—Mr. Lay has issued a reprint of *The Adventures of Jules Gérard*.—Among other reprints, we have before us Irving's *Catechism of General Knowledge*,—*Historical Acting Characters*,—*Hackney Carriages, Fares and Abstracts of Acts*, which would perhaps be intelligible if one had time to give a year to the study,—*A Second Book of Drawing*, edited by Messrs. W. & R. Chambers,—Col. Hodgson's *Opinions on the Indian Army*,—and the Rev. H. Latham's *Considerations on the Suggestions of the University Commissioners*.—Mr. Hughes's *Boscobel Tracts* has appeared in a second edition.—Mr. Broderip's *Zoological Recreations*, and Mr. Jabez Hogg's *Microscope* appear in third editions.—A sixth edition is on our table of *The Story of L'Angelier*; or, *Madeleine Hamilton Smith*,—and an eleventh edition of Guy's *Question Book*.—Bound volumes of *The Leisure Hour* and *Sunday at Home* are ready.—We have also before us a third series of *Hymns from the Land of Luther*.

Among Year-Books not yet announced in these columns, we must enumerate *The British Almanac, and Companion*, full of information and disquisition,—*The Cambridge University General Almanac and Register*,—*Parker's Church Calendar*,—*The Rural Almanac*,—*The Bolton Almanac*,—and *Almanac de Paris*.—Messrs. De la Rue have published two editions of their *Indelible Diary and Memorandum Book*, one for the use of ladies, the other for gentlemen; both handsome, handy, and convenient.—Messrs. Letts's *Diary* is also ready.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS.

Messrs. Griffith & Farran have made a great launch of illustrated books, bound for Young England, carrying colours of red, blue, green, and gold, together with stores of instruction and amusement. The book-holders are fully insured by the underwriters, one of whom, Mr. H. G. Kingston, in *Fred Markham in Russia*; or, *the Boy Travellers in the Land of the Czar*, illustrated by Mr. Landells, has given an animated description of the cities of St. Petersburg and Moscow, with pictures of their public buildings and the Coronation of the Emperor; as also an account of the passport system, the different classes of society, their sports and amusements, habits and customs. The custom of blessing the water of the rivers, lakes, ponds, streams, and wells, is performed, he tells us, three times a year,—on which occasions, such is popular confidence in the priestly blessing, that people drink of and dabble in the consecrated element during even the process of freezing. The festival of blessing the fruit takes place on the 6th of August, and as soon as the benedictions have been duly uttered the people eat of the fruit without reference to its greenness, from a belief in the virtue of the sanctifying ceremony.—The Author of 'Sunlight through the Mist,' &c., has contributed to the general store a volume entitled *Might not Right*; or, *Stories of the Discovery and Conquest of America*, with Illustrations by Mr. Gilbert, in which are traced the adventures of Columbus in the West Indies, Cortez in Mexico, Las Casas at Porto Rico and Guatemala, and Pizarro in Peru, which stories are so written as to create in the youthful mind a desire for deeper draughts of historical reading.—Mr. Abbot has produced a similar book, called *King Philip*, being a story of Red Indian life in the early days of the English settlement of America.—Next we have *Maud Summers, the Sightless*, illustrated by Mr. Absolon, a narrative of the piety, patience, and perseverance of a blind girl. Nor is the character overdrawn. We have witnessed and marvelled at the progress the blind make in acquiring knowledge, and at the power of memory they possess. The goodness, gentleness, and gratitude which mark their actions have not unfrequently rebuked us for our own shortcomings, for even critics are mortal!—*Jack Frost and Betty Snow, with other Tales*, illustrated by Mr. Weir; amongst these the story of the Sea Anemone will particularly interest such young people as are admirers of the Aqua Vivarium in the Zoological Gardens.—*The Adventures and Experiences of Biddy Dorking*; to which is added, *the Story of the Yellow Frog*, edited by Mrs. S. C. Hall, and illus-

trated by Mr. Harrison Weir, is a tale of the trials and troubles of a prize-show fowl, and is rather funny; we feel obliged to Mrs. Hall for lending her name to such a very small affair.—*The Home Pastime; or, Child's Own Toy-Maker, with Practical Instructions*, and Illustrations by Mr. E. Landells, is certainly a novelty in the way of toys. It consists of sixteen cards containing drawings of all the parts necessary for making models of a wheelbarrow, sledge, French bedstead, cab, railway tender, railway carriage, engine, model cottages, nursery yacht, perambulator, omnibus, and windmill; so that, with the aid of scissors and gum, our nursery young friends may become engineers, cabinet-makers, and artisans in general to the Empress of all the Dolls. But will any young apprentice have patience sufficient to bring the models to perfection?—The ever-welcome *Tale of Jack and the Giants* comes to us freshly and artistically illustrated with thirty-five drawings by Mr. Doyle, engraved by the Messrs. Dalziel, printed on stout cream paper, and evidently got up for the daintiest fingers of delicate household Ariels.—Then we have *The Boys and Girls' Companion for Leisure Hours*, edited by Mr. and Mrs. Bennett (Houlston & Wright), consisting of suitable Tales, Biography and History, Boys of the Bible, Science made Easy, Needlework, Trades for Boys, Poetry, Amusing Pastime, &c., with 170 Engravings. 'Don't Tell,' by Mrs. Bennett, is superior to the general run of tales which are dished up for the entertainment of the young. We commend this little work to its juvenile public.—Why it was thought necessary to translate *The Diary of Three Children, from the German of Herr Stein*, edited by Catherine D. Bell (Edinburgh, Edmonston & Douglas), when a tale equally brilliant might have been written on the darkest of days by the dullest of authors, is a riddle that we shall not attempt to solve. The coloured illustrations by J. D. are by far the better portion of the work. At all events, here is Christmas fare to choose from, and if Willie or Edie be not satisfied it will scarcely be good Mr. Publisher's fault.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Æsop's and other Fables, designs by Bennett, 4to. 6s. 6d.
Addison's Sister Kate, fr. 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl.
Adventures and Experiences of Biddy Dorking, royal 16mo. 2s. 6d.
Art-Journal (The) 1857, Vol. 3, New Series, fol. 51s. 6d. cl.
Bohn's Illus. Lib.—*Bohn's Miniature and its Palace*, 6s. cl.
Bohn's Philological Lib.—*Lowndes's Bibliographer's Manual*, 3s. 6d.
Bohn's Philological Lib.—*Hegel's Philosophy of History*, 3s. cl.
Bohn's Scientific Lib.—*Bohn's Mechanical Philosophy*, 3s. cl.
Borrow's The Romyan Rye, 3 vols. post 8vo. 21s. cl.
Builders and Contractors' Price-Book for 1858, 12mo. 4s. cl.
Boushiers' The Ark in the House, 8vo. 2s. 6d. cl.
Children at Home, 3 vols. 8vo. 21s. cl.
Clayton's 'Ubique', or English Quarters & Eastern Bivouacs, 7s. 6d.
Congregational Pulpit (The), Vol. 4, 8vo. 4s. cl.
Cousens's Sunday Magazine, 8vo. 2s. 6d. cl.
Cumming's Readings on the Corinthians, fr. 8vo. 5s. cl.
Cyclopedia of Biography, ed. by Rich, 2nd edit. 8vo. 10s. 6d. cl.
Eney. Met. Vol. 28, *Classical and Modern Geography*, fr. 8vo. 7s. 6d. cl.
Family Economist (The), 1857, 12mo. 2s. 6d. cl.
Family Friend, vol. for 1857-8, 12mo. 2s. 6d. cl.
Foot's Gospel according to Luke, 2 vols. 3rd edit. 8vo. 51s. cl.
Galloway's Manual of Qualitative Analysis, 2nd edit. 4s. 6d. cl.
Gilly's Shipwrecks of the Royal Navy, 3rd edit. fr. 8vo. 5s. cl.
Grafted Trees, by Author of 'The Good Shepherd', fr. 8vo. 1s. 6d.
Graham's Elements of Chemistry, Vol. 5, 8vo. 20s. cl.
Historical Acting Characters, 2nd edit. fr. 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl.
Hogg's Microscope, its History, &c. 3rd edit. post 8vo. 6s. cl.
Hampden's British Government in India, 2nd edit. fr. 8vo. 2s. 6d.
Indian Mutiny to the Fall of Delhi, fr. 8vo. 1s. 6d.
Inman's Phenomena of Spinal Irritation Explained, 8vo. 6s. cl.
Jennons's British Ferns popularly described, 2nd edit. 3s. 6d. cl.
Kennick's Frank Milward, 2 vols. post 8vo. 21s. cl.
Lays of the Holy Land from Ancient and Modern Poets, 4to. 21s.
Lee on Diseases of the Stomach and Indigestion, fr. 8vo. 4s. cl.
Lennon's Merry England, 8vo. 12s. cl.
Macbride's Mohammedan Religion Explained, 8vo. 7s. 6d. cl.
Massey's Sermons Preached at St. Mary's Church, Chester, 7s. 6d.
Maurice's Indian Crisis, Five Sermons, fr. 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl.
Maxwell's Iona and the Ionians, 8vo. 2s. 6d. cl.
May's Sunshine of Greystone, 8th edit. fr. 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl.
Milner's Clara Hope, or the Biade and the Ear, fr. 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl.
Milton's Comus, illustrated by Pickersill, &c. 4to. 7s. 6d. cl. gt.
Medico-Chirurgical Transactions, 2nd series, Vol. 22, 8vo. 10s. cl.
Moutaigne the Essayist, a Biography by B. St. John, 2 vols. 21s. cl.
Morriss's Three Serjants, fr. 8vo. 4s. cl.
Mosley's Rise of the Dutch Republic, 3 vols. post 8vo. 12s. cl.
Muston's Israel of the Alps, trans. by Montgomery, 3 vols. 12s. cl.
Orphans, by the Author of 'Margaret Maitland', post 8vo. 10s. 6d.
Orthodox Doctrines of the Apostolic Eastern Church, post 8vo. 5s.
Pateron's Book for Every Land, fr. 8vo. 7s. 6d. cl.
Pear's Elementary Hydrostatics, 3rd edit. fr. 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl.
Proverbs of Solomon, illustrated by Gilbert, 8vo. 12s. cl. gt.
Run and Read Lib.—*Roberts's Home in Hong Kong*, 1s. 6d. bds.
Run and Read Lib.—*Uncle Tom's Cabin*, 1s. 6d. bds.
Sleeking on Epilepsy and Epileptiform Seizures, post 8vo. 7s. 6d.
Southgate's Mind and Thoughts on Many Things, 4to. 3s. cl.
Spouting World (The) by Harry Biscup, fr. 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl.
Stephens's Expositions on the Epistles to the Romans, fr. 8vo. 4s. 6d.
Thrup's Joint-Stock Companies Act, 1856 and 1857, 12mo. 7s. cl.
Tom Brown's School Days, by an Old Boy, new edit. fr. 8vo. 10s. 6d.
True Stories about Animals, for Children, 4to. 1s. 6d. cl. s/w.
Weir's Land Measuring Tables, 12mo. 2s. 6d. cl.
Willie's Birthday, by the Author of 'Willie's Rest', 12mo. 2s. 6d.
Willie's Rest, by the Author of 'Round the Fire', 12mo. 2s. 6d. cl.
Willis's Tales of the Borders and of Scotland, new edit. 1s. 6d. bds.
Willis's Hidden Life Memorials of J. W. Willows, fr. 8vo. 3s. 6d.
Willows's Morning Thoughts, July to December, new edit. 2s. 6d.
Year Nine (The), by Author of 'Mary Wollan', post 8vo. 7s. 6d. cl.

American Importations.
Agassiz's Contributions to Natural Hist. of U.S., Vols. 1 & 2, 7l. 7s.
Pease's Human Histology, 8vo. 21s. 6d.
Wharton's Precedents of Indictments and Pleas, royal 8vo. 32s. 6d.

[ADVERTISEMENT.]—Extract from Mr. T. W. ATKINSON'S 'ORIENTAL and WESTERN SIBERIA.'—'I traversed much of the hitherto unexplored regions of Central Asia, and produced 560 sketches of the scenery, executed with the Moist Colours made by Winsor & Newton—invaluable to an artist employed under such circumstances. I have used them on the sandy plains of Central Asia, in a temperature of 50° Réaumur (144° Fahrenheit); and in Siberia have had them frozen as solid as a mass of iron, when the temperature was 43° Réaumur of frost, 11° below the point where the mercury becomes solid, when I could make it into balls in my bullet-moulds. Some of my largest works have been painted with colours that have stood these severe tests; and for depth and purity of tone have not been surpassed by those I have had fresh from the manufactory.'

THE INQUEST ON CHATTERTON.

November 30.

ABOUT four years ago, your contemporary *Notes and Queries* published, for the first time, a long and circumstantial report of the proceedings at the inquest on the body of Chatterton. The importance given to this document by Prof. Masson, in his recently-published 'Essays,' as well as by Dr. Maitland, who makes it the ground of the ingenious speculations in his pamphlet on Chatterton, reviewed in the *Athenæum* some months since, has induced me to inquire into its authenticity, and, finally, to trouble you with my reasons for believing that the 'Report' in question must be added to the already extensive catalogue of literary frauds.

The manuscript was forwarded to *Notes and Queries* in 1853, by Mr. J. M. Gutch, of Worcester,—a gentleman whose name is a sufficient guarantee for his statements. He informs me that he received it from Mr. Dix, when that gentleman was preparing his 'Life of Chatterton,' in 1837, in return for some manuscripts and printed books lent to him. The manuscript is modern, being, in fact, in Mr. Dix's own handwriting, and contains no memorandum as to its origin; nor did Mr. Dix give any information as to whence he copied it, though he promised, as Mr. Gutch informs me, that he would explain the circumstance in the 'Life.' To those who know what a prize such a document, if genuine, would be to any biographer, it would, I think, be sufficiently significant to say that Mr. Dix did not venture to insert the 'Report of the Inquest' in his 'Life of Chatterton,' or even to allude to its existence, although he favoured us in that work with some statements and unpublished poems of a somewhat doubtful character, and affixed to it a portrait of Chatterton, since proved to be spurious. Coupled with these facts, I cannot forbear from quoting one of Mr. Dix's reflections in his own work. "How many," says he, "have been the attempts since Chatterton's death to practise the same species of imposition,—but, not possessing the genius of their illustrious prototype, the unfortunate adventurers have only reaped a bitter harvest." If the writer be living, and should have read the disquisitions, both grave and imaginative, of Prof. Masson and Dr. Maitland, he must, I think, admit that this 'Report' has, on the whole, met with a fair measure of success.

The inquest, according to the heading of the 'Report,' was held at the Three Crows, in Brooke Street, Holborn, on Friday, the 27th of August, 1770. There is not at present any such public-house as the Three Crows—a very significant sign to those who remember George Colman's story of the "Three Crows"—in Brooke Street, nor, indeed, has there been any such in all London since London Directories have been in fashion,—and the 27th of August was not a Friday, but a Monday. The length and minuteness of detail of the 'Report' are indeed in themselves sufficient to awaken the strongest suspicion. All persons familiar with the newspapers of that day, when a parliamentary debate was recorded in a paragraph, and an historical victory was narrated in the brief words of a letter from an officer, will know that the public record of an inquest upon the body of a person, however distinguished, rarely extended to half-a-dozen lines. But not even this brief memorial was accorded to

the obscure and friendless boy, whose remains were quickly deposited where no trace of his resting-place has ever been discovered. The newspapers of that day have been examined again and again by Chalmers and other eager inquirers after Chatterton, but without bringing to light any contemporary mention of his death. Who then could be the enthusiastic person who took the trouble to report the romantic narratives of these sympathetic witnesses? It was not the coroner, for Sir Herbert Croft was informed by him, within a few years after the event, that he had taken no minutes of the proceedings except a bare memorandum, and was unable to recall any of the circumstances to his memory. Whoever he might be, it is evident that he, no less than the humble witnesses, had already discovered that the deceased was a "marvellous boy"—a

Sleepless soul who perished in his pride.

Why, then, was the 'Report' concealed from the world? The sentimental Sir Herbert Croft would have given his baronetcy for it. Warton, who, like Croft, interrogated the inhabitants of the houses in Brooke Street for the smallest particulars of Chatterton's end, would have valued it scarcely less. Innumerable succeeding inquirers, who have all been baffled in their researches, would have seized on the 'Report' as a treasure; but no suspicion of its existence was entertained until it suddenly made its appearance, from Mr. Dix's manuscript, in 1853. The conclusion is irresistible. The document is a recent fabrication from the materials furnished by the accounts of Croft, Warton, and others. Indeed, the suspicion once started, the process of manufacture is evident,—scarcely a fact deposited to being anything but a manifest paraphrase, or amplification, of some fact or circumstance previously known. One or two instances will suffice. The witnesses are Frederick and Mary Angell, Anne Wolfe, the barber's wife, and Edwin Cross, an apothecary. The name of Frederick Angell as one of the witnesses was given by Croft, from the coroner's memorandum. The other names are, it is true, not the same as those mentioned by Croft; but there is warrant for them all in the Chatterton records. Of the existence of a Mrs. Angell we are informed by Chatterton himself. "Mrs. Wolfe, the barber's wife," figures in Sir H. Croft's account. Cross, the apothecary, who, in the 'Report,' "always considered the deceased as an astonishing genius," was found out by Warton after he left Brooke Street,—and we hear of his acquaintance with Chatterton from Warton's 'Narrative.' The mysterious bundle of papers concerning which Dr. Maitland indulges in so many ingenious surmises is evidently the papers in a "small compass," but "worth their weight in gold," about which Chatterton, according to Sir H. Croft, talked with the Walmsleys. The bits of paper with which the floor was found strewn after Chatterton's death are the "little scraps" of which Croft also tells us. The fragment of a facetious last will and testament of the poet is foreshadowed by the document discovered in Lambert's office. The attempts of Cross to get the poet to take food, which, with one exception, he was always too proud to accept, is a new version of Warton's story of the barrel of oysters. The pride and haughtiness, the lonely musing, the muttering of rhymes in some old language, the affection for his mother and sister, and desire to make them a present of "curia" beyond his power to purchase, and the determination never to return to Bristol or hear his "hated name," are equally in accordance with the received versions, and equally unlikely to have been noted by the good folks of Brooke Street, Holborn, while the name of Chatterton was still unknown to fame.

One other statement in this pretended 'Report' will afford me an opportunity of endeavouring to settle a point of some interest to the admirers of Chatterton. What was the house in Brooke Street, Holborn, in which Frederick Angell resided and in which Chatterton ended his days? The 'Report,' which appears from Mr. Gutch's statement to be as old as Mr. Dix's 'Life of Chatterton' (1837) says No. 17. The Cambridge Edition of Chatterton's Works published in 1842, a work of no authority, says No. 4, a house on the right-hand [eastern] side from Holborn now not distinguish-

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able—the houses from No. 1 to No. 6 having for many years been converted into one warehouse. This, I think, was the earliest published attempt to identify the house, and it has since been universally adopted. Facts and circumstances, however, will, I think, show that both these statements are erroneous.

Brooke Street, except two or three houses on each side of the way at the Holborn end, is situated in the "Upper Liberty" of the parish of St. Andrew's, Holborn. The books of this Division for the collection of the Poor Rates in 1772 are still existing. The names in ink are usually entered from the books of the preceding year, any changes in the occupiers of houses discovered by the collector being noted by him in pencil as a guide in preparing the books in the following year. The names in ink, therefore, in the books referred to show the tenants of houses in Brooke Street in June 1771—ten months after Chatterton's decease. Among these I find "Frederick Angell," and if your readers will pardon some necessary tediousness in my proof, I shall, I think, be able to show in what house he resided.

There are no numbers in the book, but the houses are entered in the order of their position for the economy of the collector's trouble. The names begin at "Brooke's Market" which is at the north end of Brooke Street, and therefore proceed up the street in the direction of Holborn. Thus we come at last to "Frederick Angell"; immediately after which in large letters is the direction to the collector, "cross over"—the succeeding column of names evidently representing the other side of the street. Angell, therefore, resided in the last house in the "Upper Liberty" at the Holborn end on one or other side of the way. The position of the neighbours will show us on which side. Before arriving at Angell's house the collector had passed the name of "Dueroz." Then after five intervening names, that of "Marsh," and again after five houses he had arrived at the name "Frederick Angell." Now in Holden's Directory, 1802, I find that at that time a "Du Croz" resided at No. 27, and a "Marsh" at No. 33, Brooke Street. It will be observed that there are exactly five numbers between these two names, as in 1771. It is evident, therefore, that these are the same persons, or representatives of the persons of that name mentioned in the rate-book, and that they occupy the same houses as in 1771. The numbers 27 and 33 are at the present day on the western side of Brooke Street, and succeed each other as in the rate-book, as you proceed from Brooke's Market towards Holborn. To complete the proof that the numbers have not been changed, and that they then lay, as now, on the western side, there are still, as in the rate-book, exactly five houses between No. 33 and the last house in the Division on that side, after which the collector is to this day directed to "cross over": the house referred to being No. 39, now occupied by Mr. Jefford, a plumber, and, which is undoubtedly, the house in which Angell resided, and in an upper room of which Chatterton destroyed himself. It is also worth noting that two doors from Angell's house, on the same side, I find in the old rate-book "Robert Wolfe." This is, no doubt, the Wolfe the barber who resided, as Sir Herbert Croft tells us,—not opposite, as he must have done if No. 4 were Angell's house; nor at another end of the street, as he did if the number given in the "Report of the Inquest" were correct,—but "within a few doors of the house in which Mrs. Angell lived." Angell appears by the Books to have removed before the visit of the collector in 1772, which is in accordance with the statement of Sir H. Croft, who was unable to discover where he had gone. Mr. Jefford's house appears to have undergone no alteration since the period of Chatterton's death.

W. MOY THOMAS.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

We are requested—by those having perfect knowledge on the point—to state that a paragraph which appeared in a contemporary last week, pretending to say who is, and who is not, the owner of such and such literary copyright, is "a tissue of gross blunders." No such literary blue-book exists

as the writer affects to follow,—and the elaborate mis-information has apparently been gathered from an entry of the notices given by publishers at the Custom House with a view to assist the officers in preventing the intrusion of reprints from abroad. Our contemporary seems to have inferred that the notices are given in the names of the copyright proprietors:—but such is not the rule of the trade. Publishers give these notices as proprietors, or as agents of the proprietors, indiscriminately. Hence his misunderstanding and mis-statement.

The Special General Meeting of the Society of Arts has adopted the new bye-laws regulating the future action of the Board of Examiners. This course was natural and necessary, and after the explanations of the Council, we shall feel surprised if any reasonable person shall hold out against the change. The whole question of Examination is one of possibilities. If means were in hand to conduct oral examinations by thoroughly competent and paid examiners in every part of the country, no one would say nay. But this theoretically perfect scheme,—like any other Utopia,—must give way to realities. The power of the Society of Arts, though great, is limited. To maintain even two centres of oral examination cost more than its treasury could well bear,—although the gentlemen acting as examiners were unpaid. To maintain centres of oral examination in every district which had a right to its aid,—paying the examiners, as in the end they must,—was clearly impossible with its restricted means, and in the face of so many powerful claims on its assistance. No doubt the Society has made a compromise with theory; resolving to do that which, being good in itself, they can do,—rather than attempt to do that which, though it may be equally good or even better, they cannot do. But then the Society is a practical working power, not a speculating, metaphysical abstraction. While waiting for strength to drive the Coursers of the Sun, it is content to drive an express-train. Its plan of multiplied examination in many places by local authorities, knit up and utilized by a general written examination, conducted in London by paid examiners, will give an equal advantage to every Society in union, and no preference to any one locality.

Mr. Lover has a work in the press on the Lyrics of Ireland.

The 'Adelphi,' of Terence, is the Westminster play for the year, and will be performed three nights,—namely, on the 15th, 17th, and 21st inst.

It is right to put the following statement on record:—

"Edinburgh, 29, Heriot Row, Dec. 2.

"I have read with interest, at page 1488 of the *Athenæum*, an account of experiments by M. Chevreul and M. Niepce de Saint-Victor, illustrative of a communication, the substance of which was, that 'a body having been exposed to light, preserves, in the dark, some impression of the light.'—I think it right to mention, with the view of establishing the links in the chain of discovery and observation upon this subject, that, so long ago as 1835, I made a similar observation on the effect of colour upon the blood, whilst coagulating in a porcelain vessel, which had flowers, or other ornament of a bright green colour painted upon its interior.—This communication was read before the Royal Society of Edinburgh, in March 1839, by Prof. Forbes, the present Secretary of the Society, and was published in the *Edinburgh New Philosophical Journal* for October of the same year. Sir John Robison, the then Secretary of the Royal Society, did me the honour of communicating my observations to M. Arago, by whom they were reported in the *Comptes Rendus* of the Institute.—I trust you will excuse me trespassing upon the space of your Journal, but I shall feel obliged by your inserting these remarks, which I have been led to make simply with the view of indicating the period at which such discoveries were first commenced.—I remain, &c.,

"P. NEWBIGGING, M.D."

Some of the learned Societies, not yet basking in the sunshine of Government favour, are very anxious to obtain the use of rooms in Burlington House. Their case is simple and strong. At present that convenient edifice is given up to the

Royal Society, with its scientific sub-sections,—the Linnean Society and the Chemical Society. There is a large assembly-room for the Royal, and there are small assembly-rooms for the Linnean and Chemical. But as none of these learned bodies sit in permanence like a revolutionary chamber, the rooms are only partially occupied,—that is to say, the Royal Society occupies its large room only once a week, while the Linnean and Chemical Societies only use their rooms once a fortnight. Here there seems to be a naturally wide margin; and the outside Societies believe they have a good right to expect from the courtesy of scientific bodies such assistance in conducting their business as the use of rooms on off-nights would confer. Under such a belief, the Geographical Society applied to the Royal Society for their hall, and received it. The Ethnological Society applied in like manner to the Linnean, and were referred to the Government. The Chemical Society had already made a similar reference; disclaiming, with a proper caution, as it seems to us, any power to lend the rooms, which were lent to them for their own use. On this point, we suppose, there cannot exist two opinions. If you lend a horse, a book, or a shooting-box, to a friend, he has no right to lend it again without your permission. Government, however, we are glad to find, is anxious to oblige all parties, and their answer to Sir James Clark, President of the Ethnological Society, expresses their desire that, as far as possible, all the Learned Societies should have the use of rooms in Burlington House. The arrangements are, therefore, left to the courtesies of the scientific men,—and surely they could not be in better hands.

At the writer's desire we print the following statement:—

"Warwick Place, Pimlico, Nov. 30.

"May I request of your courtesy the insertion of the following:—On the 14th and 21st instant there appeared in the *Athenæum* an advertisement of a novel of mine (the MS. of which has for some months been in the hands of Mr. Newby), entitled 'Gerald Fitzgerald.' On the 28th instant there appeared for the first time in the *Athenæum* an announcement of a work by Mr. Charles Lever, also entitled 'Gerald Fitzgerald,' to be published in the *Dublin University Magazine*. I wish to place these facts on record, not for the purpose of suggesting that 'Harry Lorrequer' has borrowed my title (such an idea I altogether disclaim), but simply that an odd coincidence may stand upon its proper basis, and that those who leave the advertising columns of the *Athenæum* unread may not take it for granted that an author whose identity has hitherto been shrouded in the oracular 'we,' is unmasking his batteries beneath another man's bunting.—I am, &c.,

GEORGE HERBERT."

On the subject of the collection of British insects in Great Russell-street, our Correspondent "Carabus" adds a few words; which may be laid before the chief of the Entomological Department:—"I should be obliged by your favouring me with a few words more respecting the collection of Coleoptera at the British Museum. In reply to a short communication of mine, one of your Correspondents informed you that the collections of insects were open to the public on certain days in the week, but that previous intimation of a visit was requested. Now of this I was aware; but the permission does not exactly meet my objection, that there is no adequate public exhibition of this department of Entomology. We want a classified collection to refer to; we do not want—many of us as young beginners—to be overwhelmed by the very large collections to be found below; nor is it pleasant to every one to intrude on the men of 'science' in their retreat. Your informant also states that 'light' would destroy the value of many of the specimens for 'scientific purposes' (I quote from memory). Out of ten thousand specimens, would light injure one hundred, or even fifty? And if injured, are they so rare that they cannot be replaced from time to time? We all know to the contrary. And, I say again, if injured in its colours, still the discoloured insect would be better than none. How about the colours of the beautiful foreign beetles exhibited? yet these are rarer than our British

species. In conclusion, I beg to repeat, and trust the remark will meet the approbation of the Trustees, or heads of the department in question, that a full and named collection of British Beetles would be a very acceptable addition to our noble museum.—Yours, &c., CARABUS."

Baron Sina bought, some months ago, the Palazzo Grassi at Venice, the interior of which is to be rebuilt by his order, after the plans of the Vienna architect, Herr Kreuther. The magnificent *façade* of the building remains unaltered, according to the laws of the City of the Lagoons.

The fearful gunpowder explosion which lately took place at the Fortress of Mayence, has destroyed one of the historical monuments of that ancient city,—the so-called "Stockhausturm," built in the beginning of the thirteenth century, by Emperor Philip of Salsburg, who, at that time, surrounded the city with new walls, after the old ones had been pulled down, in 1163, by command of Emperor Frederic Barbarossa, on account of the murder of Archbishop Arnold von Selnhofen, in the struggles of that prelate with the citizens. The tower has been blown up in such a way that it may be truly said to have vanished, without one trace left, from the face of the earth.

A description of the kingdom of Bavaria on a large scale, written at the special command of King Maximilian the Second, by several of the first *savants* of the country, is shortly to appear in a series of volumes. It will be entitled "Bavaria," and comprise not only the necessary geographical, topographical and statistical information,—but also the history, natural history, history of the dialects, &c., of the various parts of the realm.

The Decimal Association have commenced their publication of the answers to Lord Overstone's Questions. No. 1, containing Professor De Morgan's answers, has appeared—so our readers know. No. 2 will contain Sir John Herschel's; and No. 3 the replies of those who have been more brief, namely, the Dean of Ely, the Astronomer Royal, Professor Miller, of Cambridge, Mr. W. Miller, of the Bank of England, and Mr. J. A. Franklin. But since the publication first named, Lord Overstone has yielded, and the whole of the answers are to be at once submitted to the Crown, and published in the usual course. Nevertheless, the Decimal Association intend to proceed with their own publication, which we are glad to hear, on all accounts. The point which is most prominent in Lord Overstone's argument is, that at a shilling a-pound, or a shilling a-piece, the half, quarter, third, &c., are very easily obtained. To this it is answered that the easy shilling a-pound very seldom occurs, in comparison with the broken pieces in which the advantages of decimal coinage are conspicuous. The questions vary this argument most tediously, and the answers meet it in every shape. The publication of these answers will enable many persons to get a definite view of the question, which we hope will again be brought before the House of Commons in the course of the next session. In the mean time, those who see the very great benefit which is withheld from commerce and from education by our supineness on every matter which does not rouse party feeling, should prepare for some exertion, and endeavour to bring the question to a speedy settlement. Every commercial body which has taken part in the agitation has taken one side. Merchants, mathematicians, teachers, as classes, are for the change, that is, in the listless way in which people are for or against a change which does not give rise to political excitement. Every step which produces discussion, makes five approvers for one dissident: but only approvers, not partisans; only dissidents, not opponents. So it was for a long time with the Penny Postage scheme: what a good thing, said some; oh dear no, said others; and then they went to sleep upon it. We hail every accession to the ranks of fighting men, on either side, as a benefit to the cause: and we believe that Lord Overstone himself has done much to promote it. And we must say for his Questions, that they want nothing but a better cause to be an admirable specimen of interrogative opposition. As it is, his Lordship is in the position of the cook who, during a siege, had to present a dinner of fifty dishes with nothing but

a dead horse to work upon. He cooked a clever dinner, but everybody wished him a richer larder. That prices are even, as in a shilling a-pound, is the dead hobby out of which Lord Overstone has concocted nearly all his bill of fare. So meagre, though in good hands, is the argument for reckoning money in a way which suits neither the mode in which we think of number, nor the language in which we speak of it, nor the symbols in which we operate on it.

ADAM AND EVE.—DUBUFFER'S GREAT PICTURES, "The Temptation and 'The Fall,' are NOW ON VIEW at the French Gallery, 121, Pall Mall, opposite the Opera Colonnade.—Admission, 1s.

MR. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC, NAPLES, POMPEII, and VESUVIUS, EVERY NIGHT (except Saturday) at 8, and Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday Afternoons at 3.—Places can be secured, at the Box Office, Egyptian Hall, daily, between 11 and 4, without any extra charge.

THE SOMNAMBULE. ADOLPHE DIDIER, gives his MAGNETIC REANCES AND CONSULTATIONS for Acute and Chronic Diseases, their Causes and Remedies, and on all subjects of interest, EVERY DAY, from 1 till 4—19, Upper Albany Street, Regent's Park. Consultation by Letter.

PROFESSOR WILJALBA FRIKELL.—LAST WEEK BUT ONE, EVERY EVENING (except Wednesday the 9th) at Eight, and SATURDAY AFTERNOONS, at half-past Three. Willes Rooms, King Street, St. James's.—Professor Wiljalba Frikell, Physician to their Majesties the Emperor and Empress of Russia, will give his New and Original Entertainment of Natural and Physical Magic, performed without the aid of any apparatus, entitled "TWO HOURS OF ILLUSIONS."—Stalls, 5s.; Unreserved Seats, 3s. 6d., which may be secured at Mr. Mitchell's Royal Library, 35, Old Bond Street.

DR. KAHN'S MUSEUM AND GALLERY OF SCIENCE, 3, Tichborne-street, facing the Haymarket.—This Institution presents entirely new features, and offers unprecedented attractions. Its object is to combine Natural with Experimental Science, and to show the connexion between the functions of the Human Body and the great Forces of the Universe. Amongst the numerous novelties now added, we may name the large Oxy-hydrogen Microscope, Goussier's Appareil Uranographique (now first introduced). The latest improvements in Electric and other Apparatus (including Ruhmkorff's world-renowned Coil), Illustrations of Microscopic Anatomy, Dissolving Views of Physiological Phenomena, upon a principle never before attempted, &c. Lectures are delivered daily on the various branches of Science, and their application to the Human Frame, the Laws of Life, and the Preservation of Health, by Dr. Kahn and Dr. Sexton. The Institution is illuminated outside with Du Bosque's magnificent Electric Light. Open, for Gentlemen only, from 12 till 5, and from 7 till 10 o'clock Admission to the whole Building, One Shilling. Illustrated Catalogues, Sixpence. Programmes and Lectures gratis on application, or by post, free for six stamps.

THE ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.—NEXT MONDAY EVENING, the 7th, at Eight.—Mr. J. H. PEPPER, F.R.S., A. Inst. C.E., will describe his DESCENT INTO A COAL-MINE, at a Lecture Entertainment, entitled "A SCUTTLE OF COALS from the PIT to the FIRE," and it will be repeated every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at 3, and Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday Evening, at a quarter to 8. The REBEL LION IN INDIA, one of the grandest series of DISSOLVING VIEWS ever shown, is exhibited every Morning at 11, and every Evening at 9.30, with a highly instructive and interesting Lecture. TWENTY NEW AND SPLENDID PICTURES will be added to the VIEW OF INDIA, and next, the 7th inst., also, Portraits of CLIVE, LORD CANNING, Generals HAVELOCK, WILSON, NICHOLSON, and Sir COLIN CAMPBELL, and of H.R.H. the DUKE of ALBANY, and next, the 8th inst., Portraits by Mr. MALCOLM will commence a new Lecture on THE LEVIATHAN (with Dissolving Views), on Tuesday next, 8th, at 3. All the other specialities as usual.

SCIENTIFIC

SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—Nov. 30.—The Anniversary Meeting was held at Burlington House, Lord Wrottesley, President, in the chair.—At the close of the usual annual address from the chair, the Copley medal was placed in the hands of Prof. W. H. Miller, the Foreign Secretary, for transmission to M. Michel-Eugène Chevreul, as a recognition on the part of the Society of the distinguished *savant's* scientific labours, particularly for his researches in Organic Chemistry, on the Composition of the Fats, and for Researches on the Contrast of Colours. The two Royal medals were presented,—one to Dr. Edward Frankland, for the Isolation of the Organic Radicals of the Alcohols, and for his Researches on the Metallic Derivatives of Alcohol: the other to Dr. John Lindley, for his numerous Researches and Works on all branches of Scientific Botany, and especially for his "Vegetable Kingdom" and his "Genera and Species of Orchideæ."—The ballot for Council and Officers for the ensuing year was then held, and the following list was unanimously elected:—President, Lord Wrottesley; Treasurer, Major-Gen. Edward Sabine; Secretaries, W. Sharpey, M.D., G. G. Stokes, Esq.; Foreign Secretary, W. H. Miller, Esq.; other Members of the Council, Messrs. J. M. Arnot, G. Busk, A. Farre, M.D., E. Frankland, Ph.D., J. P. Gassiot, W. R. Grove, P. Harpwick, R.A., J. D. Hooker, M.D., L. Horner, J. P. Joule, LL.D., R. Owen, LL.D., J. Percy, M.D.,

L. Playfair, Ph.D., Rev. B. Price, A. Smith, Esq., and C. Wheatstone.

GEOLOGICAL.—Nov. 18.—Col. Portlock, President, in the chair.—Messrs. I. Fletcher, E. Saunders, J. Cooksey, W. Colchester, and J. Evans, were elected Fellows.—The following communications were read:—"On Estuary Strata in Shotover Hill, near Oxford," by John Phillips, LL.D. Founding his inferences on Shotover, but confirming them by reference to points in the neighbourhood, where Purbeck strata are seen below these "Iron Sands," the author expresses his opinion that in these sands we have a northern equivalent of the Hastings Sands,—that the river to which they may be ascribed was probably not that of the typical Wealden, but a different stream, nourishing different Unionidae,—and that its effects will be traced much further to the north-eastward, along the country now under survey by the Government geologists, to whom is committed the very important task of tracing the difficult boundaries of the Lower Cretaceous and Upper Oolitic deposits.—"On the Mineralogical and Palæontological Characters of the Palæozoic Strata of the State of New York," by J. J. Bigsby, M.D.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE.—Nov. 25.—B. Batfield, Esq., M.P., in the chair.—Mr. Hogg read a paper, "On the supposed Scriptural Names of Baalbec, the Syrian Heliopolis," in which he demonstrated that many names occurring in the Bible, which had been given to this celebrated place, had been attributed to it with little reason; and that it was impossible to show with any certainty, that it had any Biblical title at an early period of history. On the whole, Mr. Hogg considered the Bekathaven of Amos, as the most likely of the names suggested.—Mr. Vaux read a paper, "On the recent Researches of C. T. Newton, Esq., H.M. Vice-Consul at Mytilene, at Budrüm (the ancient Halicarnassus)."—Mr. Newton commenced his excavations, in search of the Mausoleum (or tomb of Mausolus, King of Caria), by digging on the spot marked as its site by Capt. Spratt, R.N. in the chart compiled by him for the English Admiralty. Here he found nothing which could be assigned to the mausoleum, though, in the neighbourhood, he came upon a mule's load, at least, of Greek and Roman terra-cottas, a large number of which have been shipped thence, and are now in England. Failing there, Mr. Newton determined to excavate on the spot suggested long since by Prof. Diodorus, who, twenty-five years ago, observed fragments of Ionic columns lying about *in situ* and made drawings of many of them. Here he soon met with signal success in the discovery of the torso of an equestrian figure and of a seated female, both double the size of life, the hind-quarters of seven lions, the same in style as the heads still remaining in the castle—and two pieces of frieze, of great beauty—evidently parts of that already in the British Museum. Besides these more important objects, there was a vast collection of architectural fragments, which will be of great value to the student of architecture at home. There could be no doubt that he reached the structure of the mausoleum. A little later Mr. Newton found the Hellenic wall, which had once formed the north boundary of the *Temenos* or precinct of the mausoleum, and, close to it, a colossal lion, quite perfect except his legs. Beyond this, again, was found a gigantic horse, with the bronze bit still remaining in his mouth, unquestionably one of the horses of the quadriga, which we know, from Pliny's description, was at the top of the pyramid. It was now clear, that the earthquake, which, in all probability, was the first to ruin the mausoleum, had thrown the quadriga and other portions of the sculptures beyond the northern boundary wall. Here, too, were subsequently found many blocks of marble, so cut as evidently to have formed the steps of the pyramid, and part of the outer circle, the spokes and nave, of the chariot-wheel, from which it may be inferred that the chariot was itself not less than twenty feet long. We are happy to be able to state, that a large portion of the invaluable sculptures thus discovered by Mr. Newton have already, owing to the liberality of Government, safely reached the Mu-

seum, and that the remainder are on their way, and may be expected soon to arrive. Among the smaller objects which have reached England are fragments of a pale yellow vase in Oriental alabaster, bearing a Cuneiform inscription, and an Egyptian cartouche—each respectively recording the name of "Xerxes, the great King." Such vases are extremely rare, and only two or three are known bearing analogous inscriptions. Is it too much to conjecture that this very vase may have been a gift from Xerxes himself to the elder Artemisia, who, as we know from Herodotus, greatly distinguished herself, on his side, at the battle of Salamis?

BRITISH ARCHEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—Nov. 25.—J. Heywood, V. P., in the chair.—The meetings for the season commenced by announcing the election of twenty Associates since the adjournment in June,—among which were J. H. Gurney, M.P., Sir E. F. Buxton, Bart., M.P., Sir H. Stracey, Bart., Sir W. J. B. Folkes, Bart., Lieut.-Gen. Sir R. J. Harvey, C.B., Revs. J. Bulwer, H. Howell, J. Gunn, Dr. Juke, Messrs. R. Fitch, C. J. Palmer, L. S. Bidwell, A. A. H. Beckwith, W. Aldham, A. T. Amherst, F. G. West, R. Canning.—Mr. Zanzi exhibited a photograph of a bronze celt, found, together with flint arrow-heads, in the turf of the Lake Bosio. —Dr. Lee exhibited the passports of Abraham Whelock, the Arabic Professor at Cambridge, signed by the Earl of Manchester, Oliver Cromwell, &c.—Mr. G. R. Corner communicated a deed relating to property in Southwark, one of the witnesses to which was a Peter Shakespeare.—Mr. Syer Cumming exhibited a portion of a terra-cotta figure of an equestrian knight, found in Lancashire, which he attributed to the twelfth century.—Mr. Wills exhibited an exceedingly minute key, found off Paul's Wharf, probably belonging to a diminutive casket of the commencement of the fifteenth century.—Mr. Pretty forwarded a rubbing of a fine brass, formerly in Tynningham Church, Bucks.—Mr. Gunston exhibited a small silver reliquary, in the form of a padlock, of the early part of the sixteenth century; and Mr. Planché produced a remarkable specimen of a Chapelle de Fer, which was ordered to be engraved, and upon which Mr. Planché promised some observations.—Dr. Kendrick forwarded various Celtic antiquities in gold and electrum, together with bronze horse-furniture of the same period, found in Lincolnshire. There are three torques of wonderful workmanship. Mr. Cumming read a paper on the subject, including notices of ancient British swords sent by Mr. Durdan from Dorsetshire, and Mr. Fitch from Norfolk, and the whole of the specimens were directed to be engraved, to accompany Mr. Cumming's paper.

NUMISMATIC.—Nov. 19.—W. S. W. Vaux, Esq., President, in the chair.—Sir H. C. Rawlinson exhibited a collection of Kufic gold coins, lately found in Seistan.—Mr. Evans exhibited a so-called imitation of the Jewish shekel, now exhibited for sale in many shops in London, and commented on the fact that an imitation of a barefaced forgery, accompanied by a printed description of it, full of the most ludicrous inaccuracies, was so readily saluted upon the public.—Mr. Vaux read a paper 'On a Collection of Kufic Coins, discovered by Mr. W. K. Loftus when excavating in the Ruins of Susa.' The whole number discovered amounted to about 180. Of these, many were matted together by the oxidation of the metal; but about 100 were legible, and, for the most part, in excellent preservation. The coins were found above the pavement of one of the great chambers of the temple, in a small earthen vessel. They range over a period of twenty-eight years, from A.D. 697–725. From the names of the places of mintage occurring on these coins, it may be inferred that they are part of a hoard made by some Arabian soldier who had followed the march of the Mohammedan armies.—Mr. Evans read a paper 'On a very curious Barbarous Coin, struck in imitation of those of the Empress Helena,' which has been lately found near Caistor (the *Venta Icenorum*).

HORTICULTURAL.—Dec. 1.—The following new fellows were elected:—Messrs. S. Lowdell, R.

Forster, S. W. Leach, J. Morrell, G. Greenhill, Mrs. Carter, J. W. Wardell, E. Kimmersley, Capt. T. H. Powell, Sir R. B. W. Bulkeley, Bart., M.P. Capt. R. Aplin, Rev. L. Sneyd, Earl of Scarborough, H. W. Wickham, C. Parker, Mrs. Chatfield, E. Highton, H. Westcar, Sir C. W. Codrington, Bart., T. B. T. Hildyard, E. Guest, W. Cox, J. Cole, R. Ellison, G. K. Jarvis, T. J. Turner, J. Copland, Earl of Shannon, E. Eagles, H. L. Nicholls, E. H. Joynson, G. W. Francis, Sir T. B. Hepburn, Bart., Lady C. G. Legge, Hon. R. W. Clive, M.P., Earl of Erne, Rt. Hon. T. Erskine, Sir Edw. Fitzgerald, W. Cubitt, S. Ricardo, E. Brown, J. Barnes, R. Brotherhood, Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry, G. T. W. Sibthorp, M.P., D. Fullerton, T. Evans, R. Marriott, T. Chamberlayne, G. Sanders, M.P., Rev. C. Kemble, J. Waterer, Capt. A. Hawksley, S. Lewis, H. Norman, Lady Erle, Sir J. Orde, Bart., J. Watts, H. J. Spearman, J. Robin, Rev. H. J. Sperling, W. H. Hawkins, W. A. T. Amhurst, J. Ward, D. Martineau, R. Heady, Sir G. Montgomery, Bart., M.P., Earl of St. Germans, F. Darwin, H. Miles, W. F. L. Carnegie, J. C. Fletcher, J. Pease, J. Cattley, F. E. Robinson, T. H. Maudslay, Rev. J. A. Wedgwood, S. Finney, S. Broome, W. Toogood, W. Mercer, T. W. Maddy, T. B. Horsfall, M.P., W. Tomline, Earl of Rosse, Capt. Sir G. N. Broke, Bart., R. Rogers, B. T. Woodd, M.P., Capt. T. Waring, Earl of Roden, W. Norton, Gen. Duncan, J. Kerrick, A. K. Barclay, Sir R. Kane, H. G. M. Stewart, J. Dolman.—It was announced that another meeting for the election of Fellows would take place on Tuesday, Dec. 15.

ETHNOLOGICAL.—Nov. 25.—Sir James Clark, Bart., President, in the chair.—The President stated that, in consequence of negotiations for a place of meeting for the Society in Burlington House, it had been found necessary to postpone the first meeting of the season to that day, and to meet in the rooms of the Statistical Society.—Mr. T. F. Dillon Croker read 'A Report of the Ethnological Papers read in Section E. of the British Association, at Dublin,' from whence it appeared that their number rather exceeded that of the merely geographical papers, and that there was, as might be expected in Ireland, a run upon the subject of the Celtic race.—Mr. T. Wright read 'An Account of Recent Excavations in Yorkshire, illustrative of the Early Ethnology of our Island.' Mr. Wright stated that, on a visit to Lord Londesborough, at Scarborough, in October, it had been arranged to open a very large tumulus a few miles to the south of that town, which was known by the name of Willey-hou; and he pointed out the interest of the numerous barrows in that part of Yorkshire, as having hitherto furnished evidence in support of a conviction he had gradually yielded to, that a great portion of what are commonly set down as early British barrows really belong to the latter part of the Roman period. Before much progress had been made in this great barrow, they were called off by the accidental discovery of an early Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Leamer, much nearer Scarborough, in which were found a considerable number of jewels, in gold, silver, and stones and enamel. In consequence of this discovery, the exploration of the large barrow was abandoned for the present; but Mr. Wright related several popular legends connected with it, which were curiously illustrative of the durability of such legends, and of their value in an ethnological point of view.—Dr. Hodgkin then read a paper 'On the Bedouins.' He stated that, having in a tour this summer in Egypt and Palestine, had some intercourse with this race, he had thought it his duty to make all the observations he could on their character and habits. He said that, in spite of all the warnings he had received as to the personal danger he would incur amongst them, he had trusted himself to them with confidence, and that he had met everywhere with hospitality and good faith. He was struck with the inaccuracy of the usual description of the Bedouins given by travellers, for he found that, instead of the dark, fierce eyes often ascribed to them, they had often light-coloured eyes, and that in stature they are small, and not strongly built. He remarked par-

ticularly, as they bathed in the Jordan, that the Bedouins were smaller and less muscular than the Europeans or Americans. The women, as far as his observation went, had not good features. Dr. Hodgkin gave it as his opinion, from his experience and from the relations of others who had travelled much among them, that the ordinary accounts of the extortionate and treacherous character of the Bedouins were not correct, and that it was in a great degree the fault of travellers themselves when they suffered from them.—A discussion of some interest took place upon this paper. Mr. Christie, who had travelled much among the Bedouins, confirmed the remarks of Dr. Hodgkin upon their character, and seemed to intimate that different tribes presented considerable diversity of physical character. Mr. W. F. Ainsworth expressed the great satisfaction he had felt in hearing Dr. Hodgkin's favourable views of the character of the Arabs, which entirely coincided with his own, founded upon an intercourse of some years with the nomadic tribes. These correct views were the more important at the present moment, as a prevalent distrust of the Arabs had formed one of the greatest obstacles in the proposals for effecting an easier and more rapid communication with our Indian possessions, whether by railroad or electric telegraph; and this feeling was so powerful that it had actually been overlooked that the line of the proposed telegraph did not go through the country of the Arabs. After noticing the great diversities of the Arabs, in regard of race or family, as recognized by themselves in modern times, more especially the Anezeh in Syria and the Shamir in Mesopotamia, Mr. Ainsworth gave some details as to the system of black-mail which had sprung up in some routes much frequented by Europeans, as those by Petra to Hebron, from Jerusalem to the Jordan, and from Damascus to Palmyra; and for the extortions thus practised, he said that the travellers had themselves chiefly to blame.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—Dec. 2.—George Lowe, Esq., in the chair.—Fifty new members were elected. The paper read was 'On the Comparative Heating Properties of Coke and Coal in regard to Economy and the Prevention of Smoke,' by Mr. Apsley Pellatt.

INSTITUTE OF ACTUARIES.—Nov. 30.—J. Filanison, Esq., President, in the chair.—T. B. Sprague, Esq., was elected a Fellow, on the recommendation of the Council; Arthur Pearson, Esq., an official associate; and Messrs. H. Hansley and A. Jones were elected associates. A paper by Mr. C. A. M. Willich, 'On a New Formula for the Expectation of Life,' was read, in the absence of the writer, by Mr. Williams.

- MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.**
- MOX. Royal Institution, 2.—General.
 - Ethnological, 8.
 - Royal Academy, 8.—'Anatomy,' by Prof. Partridge.
 - THURS. Syro-Egyptian, 7½.—'Exhibition of Egyptian Antiquities,' by Sir Charles Nicholson.—'On the Inscriptions in the Jebel Mokattah—the Mountain with Writing,' by Mr. S. Sharpe.
 - Institution of Civil Engineers, 8.—'Account of the Nile Ferry, at Kairo Anavat, Egypt,' by Mr. Sopwith.
 - Zoological, 2.—Scientific.—'On a New Species of Cassowary, from the South Pacific,' by Mr. Gould.
 - WED. Royal Society of Literature, 8.
 - Society of Arts, 8.—'On the Progress made of Late Years in the Manufacture of Agricultural Machines and Implements,' by Mr. Sidney.
 - Graphic, 8.
 - British Archaeological Association, 8½.—'On the Chancery of Monmouth,' by Mr. Wakeman.—'On Kelt's Rebellion in Norfolk,' by Mr. Pettigrew.
 - Ethnological, 8½.—'Some Contributions towards the Ethnology of Modern Europe,' by Dr. Latham.—'Suggestions respecting the Nationality and Language of the Ancient Etruscans,' by Mr. Kennedy.—'Notes on the Sabæans dwelling near the Mouths of the Euphrates,' by Mr. Ainsworth.
 - Microscopical, 8.
 - THURS. Society of Antiquaries, 8.
 - Royal, 8½.—'On a Peculiar State of Antimony, with Experiments by Dr. Tyndall,' by Mr. Gore.—'On the Chemical Action of Water on Soluble Salts,' by Dr. Gladstone.
 - FRI. Astronomical, 8.

FINE ARTS

Winged Words on Chantrey's Woodcocks. Edited by James Patrick Muirhead, M.A. With Etchings. (Murray.)

IF our dinner is to be of the concentrated essence of midge's wings and the brains of butterflies, it must needs be well cooked to be in any large degree nourishing. In the present case, however, the light

repast is served up with the most piquant of sauces, and on Sevres, enamelled with Pompadour faces and garlands of the rarest blossoms of Versailles.

The little volume, to speak in kersey prose, records on the creamiest of paper, and in the most exquisite types, the following simple facts:—Chantrey, the sculptor, like Diocletian, Sir Humphry Davy, and some other worthies, loved the rod, and, what is more, a gun. In November, 1829, being on a visit at Holkham, the seat of the celebrated Mr. Coke, and having joined a shooting-party, he had the proud fortune of killing (flushing, we beg pardon) two woodcocks at a shot. To record this lucky shot, or accident, for Chantrey had only one sound eye, he carved an exquisite marble monument to the two birds, whose effigies were represented, and presented it to Mr. Coke. This incident, thus tastefully recorded in a marble sonnet, itself a triumph of dextrous sculpture, became a show-thing at Holkham, and served as the butt for innumerable *jeux d'esprit* from the pens of the great and wise. The labour of beauty and love, the pretty mortuary plaything of genius, was honoured by tributes from a Wrangham, a Malby, a Selwyn, a Tenterden, a Williams, an Alderson, a Wilberforce, a Scott, and a Wellesley. A cruel cynic would remind us of a certain proverb, "One fool makes many,"—but a more genial wit would look with pleasure on the harmless playfulness of great men, and remember how Henry the Fourth romped with the young nobles, and how the great Agæilaus rode round a Spartan room on a stick.

As to real literary merit, who but a fool would stop to compare a parlour charade actor with Macklin or Bannister, or old Brigg's "last" with the dazzle of Chesterfield's wit! In sober truth, the sixty or seventy pages of Latin and Greek distichs and poems have no more flavour than the dregs of yesterday's champagne. They remind us wonderfully of the pleasant reading on wet days of the name-books at country hotels,—they all run to the same tune and the same idea.

Thus, Chantrey killed, once upon a time, two woodcocks, and then raised them to life again in marble. Dean Milman, indeed, hits it with verbal accuracy and keenness,—

Uno letu morimur, simul uno vivimus ictu.

Or, as Mr. Duncan translates it,—

The same hand death and life could give,
By yours we died, by yours we live.

Baron Alderson's is characteristic and original,—

Here lie the fruits of Chantrey's gun,
Two woodcocks,—yet the shot but one;
O, had he been content to kill
The Bill, and nothing but the Bill!

There is a good culinary point in J. P. M.'s, which has a pleasant reminiscence about it:—

The swan by smooth Meander's tide,
First sang a funeral dirge, then died;
These woodcocks do a harder thing,
For first they die, and then they sing.

The volume, fit for a lord, is adorned with exquisite illustrations of autumn covert sides by J. Redaway (outline),—a medallion of Chantrey's fine manly face, a drawing by him,—and, of course, a view of the woodcock monument.

A well-written preface, and, what is more, an amusing one, gives us some capital stories of shooting exploits *à propos* of Chantrey's—rare stories to be told over the best port. As, for instance, how Lieut. Houghton killed at one shot a grouse on the wing and two hares sitting,—how Alexander Longbow slew, at one discharge, six snipes on the wing,—how Sandie McKittie shot four blackcocks at the same moment,—how a Lincolnshire Mr. Witty, at one punt gunshot, felled 500 starlings,—and other lucky sportsmen respectively eight swans and seven buzzards.

These woodcocks of Chantrey's, indeed, deserve a place among those trifles that the pleasant egotism of great men have rendered immortal,—with Marvell's fawn, Gray's cat, Gresset's parrot, and Cowper's hares. Twenty-seven epigrams, Miss Wall's drawing of the Holkham Monument, and Redaway's really fairy-like etchings, make up a trifle worthy of the library of Corvinus of Hungary.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

The Art-Treasures Examiner. (Manchester, Ireland & Co.)

We have before us in a compendious form a work which was issued in parts during the course of the Manchester Exhibition. Whilst professing to illustrate the contents of the Exhibition, it overshoots the mark to a certain extent, since many of the subjects engraved were never contributed to the Manchester Collection. Thus, for instance, we find engravings of 'The Visitation,' by Rubens, 'Curtius leaping into the Gulf,' by Haydon; the 'Nelly O'Brien' of Reynolds is not the 'Nelly O'Brien' of Manchester also; and the illustrations from Watteau and Murillo are also foreign to the Art-Treasures Exhibition. These objections might easily have been waived by the adoption of some distinctive title beneath each cut, and a reference also to the number of the Exhibition Catalogue. Still, the work is an eminently useful one, well designed, and remarkable as the only illustrated book on the subject which has emanated from Manchester. It contains, moreover, specimens of every department of Art furniture, jewelry, carving, &c., and in addition to original articles on Art and biography, numerous scraps selected from the wide field of artistic literature, especially from Lanzi, Barry, Fuseli, Harford, Allan Cunningham, Wilkie, Reynolds, and many other distinguished writers, the varied purport of which in such a volume has a peculiar charm. The poetical effusions so liberally interspersed throughout will do little to benefit either Art or literature. Some of Mr. Otley's essays are remarkable for care and thought. The observations, at page 280, upon the picture of the 'Three Maries,' which excited such marked attention at Manchester, are much in our own way of thinking. Both from its numerous woodcuts and incidental variety of information the book will always be an entertaining one. To those who visited Manchester it will afford pleasant reminders, whilst to those who did not attain that high latitude from London the volume will convey a merely confused impression.

Modern Statues. Lithographed by Bedford. (Day & Son.)

Mr. Wyatt's 'Ino and Bacchus,' Schuler's 'Adam and Eve,' Mr. Marshall's 'Ophelia,' deserve better treatment than this. In our days such rough, black-leaded abnormalities are to good, clear classical outlines what the Italian's spotted casts are to Baily's 'Eve at the Fountain.'

FINE-ART GOSSIP.—Our readers are aware that the Society of Arts has taken up the question of artistic copyright. A powerful committee is in progress of formation. From the Society's reputation, the world expects and foresees that this work will now be done—in due time: and help and adhesion will doubtless come to the Society of Arts from many quarters. For example:—

"Royal Academy of Arts, Trafalgar Square, Nov. 27.
"In an article on 'Artistic Copyright,' in your journal of the 21st inst., under the head of 'Fine-Art Gossip,' the writer, in lauding the efforts of the Society of Arts to obtain an equitable adjustment of that vexed question, concludes with these words:—'Where, now, is Mr. Robertson Blaine? Here is the co-operation which he seeks, and which the Royal Academy denies.' Had your informant taken the pains to inquire, he would have ascertained that the co-operation of the Royal Academy, instead of having been denied to Mr. Robertson Blaine, had been most warmly accorded to him in the year 1855, and had only been interrupted by the dissolution of Parliament, and subsequently postponed at that gentleman's recommendation. Not having thought it worth while to inquire, it would have been as well not to make an invidious and unjust assertion.—I have, &c.,

JOHN P. KNIGHT, R.A., Sec."

—We confess our ignorance of the secret doings of the Royal Academy in 1855, and we are not even yet aware that the sympathies of the Forty took any visible shape at that time. Two sessions of Parliament have since worn away without the public hearing much of the anxiety of Trafalgar

Square to secure copyright in pictures and statues by law. We are willing, however, to believe the desire latent; and we congratulate the Society of Arts on the force it will acquire from the co-operation of the Royal Academy.

The Art-public of Liverpool is dividing again itself with the results anticipated in the divine adage. We are sorry to find it so; and we have only refrained from public notice of the quarrel in the hope that local heats would cool down, and all parties join once more in promoting that which they all love so well. But the animosity grows warmer, and the quarrel in the body of the Liverpool Academy has attained so much notoriety that we can no longer usefully keep silence. The fact,—so far as we can gather them, and if we misstate any of them we shall willingly set them right on better knowledge—seem to be these. For some years past those who have control of the Liverpool Academy have gone over strongly to the pre-Raphaelite heresy in Art—crowning year after year the works of pre-Raphaelite painters—and buying year after year pre-Raphaelite pictures. The fact has been patent—the reason unknown. But the consequence has been that artists of the Natural School have refused to send their works for exhibition in Liverpool, and that consequently the Liverpool public has been denied the great advantage of inspecting the best works of our best painters. The annual exhibition has dwindled into a fiftieth-rate collection. Of course such predilection in any public body is absurd. A private purchaser may buy the pictures that please him best—he may prefer Greuze to Guido, or Rubens to Raphael—but such a man has no right to dictate taste to his fellow-citizens. Complaints have often reached us from artists in London on this subject; but while Liverpool acquiesced in the decisions of its Academy, we treated it as we might have done a case of individual hallucination, will shortly be a thing to be regretted, as detrimental to the best interests of Art and the good name of the town, but not as a sin calling for our rebuke. So long as Liverpool was quiet, we thought the artists had no more right of complaint than the would have had against any purchaser of pictures who refused to admire or buy their works. But the case alters the moment public opinion pronounces against the narrow views and sectarian imagination of their Academy. At last public indignation has broken out. The purchase of one of Mr. Millais's inferior works for a very large sum on behalf of the town has disquieted the Liverpool connoisseurs, and some of the members of the Academy have had the courage to separate their own responsibilities from those of their fellows. The Academy of course pretends to feel offended at the free criticism of the public. But the public stands here in the right—on their own right—both as to the general principle and the particular purchase. A country gallery might very reasonably possess itself of a single specimen of pre-Raphaelite Art—for, however false and sectarian may be the practice of that school of Art as a whole, it has been useful as a protest, and some of its disciples are men of great ability and thorough conviction. But a country gallery composed wholly, or chiefly of such works would be neither amusing nor instructive. Those who pronounce against making Liverpool a refuge for the pre-Raphaelite sectaries are so clearly right in their premises, that we cannot imagine the public that would allow and science them to be overruled by a section of the Liverpool Academy.

The strange impromptu green-houses fitting nature between the great pillars of the entrance of the British Museum have for some time past attracted attention. It was reported they were for geraniums, precisely aquariums, for airing the mummies, &c. It is now understood that they are to be temporary workshops for the artisan who will repair the marbles and other antiquities lately received from Carthage: the city of Dido and of Victoria have entered into relations.

On Thursday, Messrs. Foster, between the pillars of whose entrance-door lovers of Art so often seen passing, sold a valuable collection of water-colour drawings, some direct from the masters' easels, and others from the portfolio of

celebrated amateur" who lives in some mysterious place near the metropolis. Amongst other excellent works were some careful studies by Wilkie, done in his sure safe way, some terribly old houses by the patriarch Girtin, sketches by Varley, some most delectable fruit by Mr. W. Hunt, the grapes done unnecessarily well, so matchless is the gentleman's art of producing his often-repeated and too certain effects. Of Turner there were some rich specimens,—the 'College at Houghurst' from the 'England and Wales' series, the Chateau of La Belle Gabrielle, which was engraved in the 'Keepsake,' Wells Cathedral, the Welsh Bridge (in his second manner), Frascati's Alum Bay, a palace at Genoa, and Welsh Slate Quarries. Nash was exemplified by a chapel in the Cathedral of St. Jacques, Calais, Copley Fielding by a Cumberland landscape, and Carlele and Denbigh Castles. David Cox, with his training skies and bluff vigour, had his 'Calais Pier,' with plenty of cloud and wind, a poetic landscape, a brook scene, and evening. Mr. Lance a costly drawing of fruit and plate, rich and golden, with a carpet as usual, masterly and classical in its way, and pleasant compared with the old Dutch red and black flower-pieces. Mr. Thorpe's 'Cattle in the Water, and Sheep,' was unusually glowing and finished. It was such a work as men do to get the great known, not such as they do when known. Mr. Taylor's 'Hawking Party' was sketchy and vivacious as usual, full of gentlemanly dash and a half-grown manner past growing. Of Müller there were interesting specimens: 'Scene in Wales' and 'Mosque, with Taurus Mountains in Distance.' There were also instances of De Wint, Poole, as no right Martin, Stanfield, Austin, E. Landseer, Pickersgill, Compton, Prout, Robins, Lewis, Barrett, and Jackson. The cartoons of the great fresco-painting which Prof. von Kaulbach has offered to the German Museum, at Nürnberg, has been completed, and will shortly be exhibited at Berlin. It represents the opening of the grave of Charlemagne, in the Cathedral of Aix-la-Chapelle, by Emperor Otto the Third.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, Exeter Hall.—Conductor, Mr. COSTA. FRIDAY next, December 11, Handel's MESSIAH. Vocalists: Madame Rüdersdorf, Mrs. Lockey, Mr. Lockey, and Mr. Weiss, with Orchestra of 700 Performers.—Tickets, 3s., 2s., and 1s. 6d.—Exeter Hall.

ST. MARTIN'S HALL.—Handel's MESSIAH, WEDNESDAY, December 10, under the direction of Mr. JOHN BULLAH. Principal Vocalists—Miss Kemble (her first appearance), Miss Messent, Miss Palmer; Mr. Montem Smith, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Santley.—Tickets, 1s., 2s., 6d.; Stalls, 5s. Subscription for the Season, Stalls, 30s.; Galleries, 15s.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

SACRED MUSIC.

Jephtha and his Daughter: an Oratorio. The words adapted from the Bible; the Music composed by Carl Reinthaler. (Ewer & Co.)—Few musical works of new works of such sterling value as this oratorio may be given from the musical press of Germany have been given for many years past. Though the performance of it at Herr Reinthaler's oratorio at St. Martin's Hall (No. 1486) was not unimpeachable, owing to the timidity of the singer in some portions of an unfamiliar and elaborate work, some of its finest effects did not come out as forcibly as might have been wished, the impression made on every musician present was one which only real idea would allow science can make. It will be confirmed, we are satisfied, by a perusal of the score now published; and we hope that the publication will lead to more future performances, and these encourage Herr Reinthaler to further efforts in composition. Though he is near a style, he cannot be said to have made this discovery, however clever, however careful he be, he must rank among the scholars and the experimentalists, not among the men who enlighten a public and mark a period. To illustrate by German example, it is neither freshness of idea nor variety of resource that has given Dr. Spohr his place,—but individuality of manner. To some, it comes at once; by others, it must be attained in the cases of Gluck and M. Meyerbeer after many years of exercise in composition. We imagine that such a gain is not beyond the reach of Herr Rein-

thaler; and, if gained, how great would be the pleasure to Europe, in days when we are famishing for something German which is not like Mendelssohn, or which does not pretend to outdo the crudities and incomprehensible passages of Beethoven's last Quartetts and ninth Symphony.—In another respect, this publication of 'Jephtha' gives us a high opinion of Herr Reinthaler. He has reconsidered his Oratorio since it was performed in London. Then, it may be recollected, the introductory portion was objected to as heavy, owing to the predominance of stern and gloomy music, relieved only by *solos* for the bass voice. In place of the bass, it is now the tenor that speaks. There has further, if we mistake not, been introduced a placid and suave air for the *contralto*, which adds to the musical interest of this portion of the Oratorio without depriving it of its dramatic propriety. It would be easy to point out certain shortcomings in the *libretto* which are not to be made up; but these inherently belong to the period of inexperience in effect and selection. Let us rather refer all whom Oratorio concerns, and who were not present at the performance, to Nos. 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 15, 16, 18, and 21 (a large proportion out of thirty-four pieces), in proof that Herr Reinthaler is possessed of poetical and musical ideas in no common degree.

Cathedral Music, &c.: a Collection of Services and Anthems. Composed by Thomas Attwood Walmisley, &c. Edited by his affectionate father, Thomas Forbes Walmisley. (Ewer & Co.)—This is a posthumous publication, comprising five Services and ten Anthems, the last of which are written in a more florid and free style than their predecessors, and were possibly composed with orchestral accompaniment. Were this not a posthumous publication we might use it by way of text for a discourse which has one day to be offered concerning form and reform in our cathedral music; discussing how, owing to "letter" standing in place of "spirit," the cleverest among modern composers have been encouraged to dispense with idea, and thus have sunk into a sort of lethargic orderliness in which Art has no being and devotion no breathing. This 'Cathedral Music' contains abundant traces that its writer was meant for better things than to write it, and should be well received by the orthodox, though it tends to stir within ourselves all manner of rebellious and heterodox suggestions.

We must content ourselves with announcing the publication of some other Protestant Service-music. *A Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, for Four Voices*, composed by Edwin H. Harper. (Novello).—*A Fire Part Setting of the Benedictus and Apostles' Creed*, by S. Hatherly, Mus. Bac. Oxon., (Cocks & Co.) which, we are instructed, procured for its writer his degree,—thirdly, *Chants in Vocal Score, with an Accompaniment for the Organ*, composed and arranged by George Baker. (Novello).—Here, lastly, we notice the second edition, with important additions and alterations, of a pamphlet on the *Theory and Practice of Just Intonation, with a View to the Abolition of Temperament, as Illustrated on the New Enharmonic Organ.* (Effingham Wilson.) The epithet "new" can hardly apply to experiments and researches which are coeval (if we mistake not) with the establishment of the Westminster Review. Ingenious and profound they doubtless are, but their application is, possibly, not so practicable as their sanguine inventor conceives. The "ventilation" of the question of temperament, however, from time to time (to avail ourselves of the parliamentary jargon of the hour) can hardly fail to be of use and interest.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY.—The Sacred Harmonic Society made an interesting start for the season yesterday week, by presenting Haydn's 'Imperial Mass,' the jubilant stateliness of which will not soon grow old,—Mendelssohn's 'Lauda Sion,' the most recent, and one of the noblest Catholic hymns in music,—and Dr. Spohr's 'Last Judgment.' That the last work does not wear as well as its rapacious popularity a quarter of a century since led the world to expect, is true. Its pair of symphonic preludes are small in idea and sickly in treatment,

—its recitatives are sapless, and do not represent the text.—With the exception of a few bars here and there, the strength of the oratorio lies in the two Quartetts with chorus; and these probably were never better executed than yesterday week, with Madame Rüdersdorf, Mrs. and Mr. Lockey, and Mr. Weiss, as the *solis*. The chorus of the Sacred Harmonic Society is in fine order, having apparently been reinforced by some fresh voices. In intonation, and in attack, too, it appears to us to have gained. Some changes in the form of the orchestra, so as to arrange the singers less steeply than they were formerly piled up, are changes for the better.

PRINCESS'S.—On Monday, Mr. C. Kean presented the first of the series of those reproductions with which it is understood that he designs to close the managerial period of his life. 'Richard the Second,' with all its pictorial accessories and complete embodiments, had the honour to lead the gorgeous procession. It is, perhaps, the most perfect of the number, and rightly commands the most dignified position. The archaeological illustrations of this tragedy are in themselves a serious study, and as a mere panorama would repay the most diligent attention. What is called the historical episode of Richard's entry into London under the fatal guidance of Bolingbroke is of itself a dramatic chronicle, introduced as an interlude, and might alone furnish a distinct entertainment. It adds an instructive act to the original drama, and, perhaps, increases the value of the representation both materially and morally. It serves to delight the mind as a work of Art in itself, and to imprint more deeply the meaning of the story, and the lesson it involves for both monarchs and subjects. An extra division also takes place in the fifth act. The green curtain falls on the king's assassination in Pomfret Castle, and a considerable pause ensues, before his successor is presented in St. George's Hall, Windsor Castle, where the body of the murdered sovereign is brought in funeral procession. Such an arrangement has the effect of making a distinct act of the last scene. As performed, therefore, the tragedy is extended to seven acts; and no doubt gains much in clearness, precision and effect by the improved distribution of the dramatic action. In these points, Mr. C. Kean has exhibited a daring originality; but at the same time evinced a taste judiciously applied to the practical ends and specific eligibilities of stage representation. Mr. Kean's impersonation of the mistaken and deposed monarch has gained improvement by the facility which practice gives, and has arrived at that rare excellence in dramatic portraiture in which the artist is lost in his subject, and the finest touches are produced with apparent unconsciousness. His last three acts are, indeed, finished examples of histrionic skill and power,—in more than one instance, of genius. His *Richard the Second* entitles him, perhaps, to take rank in his profession before any other actor; at any rate, we cannot readily name one among his contemporaries who would be likely to perform it so well.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—We are reminded that Christmas is near by the *Album de Piano, 1858*, published by Ewer & Co., which is about as good a gift-book of its kind as we have met. Almost every item included in it claims some remark of itself; but, though such prolixity is inexpedient for the moment, we must call attention to Herr Rubinstein's 'Barcarole.' Then Dr. Liszt's 'Consolation' is not to be passed over among *Notturmi*, as one of the most charming things of the kind produced since Chopin's pen quivered faintly into stillness. There must be, we suppose, some crude modulations in all that these gentlemen do, just now; but we find here the poet's fancy, the master's hand, and the musician's cunning finger. The leading idea is real—the grace is exquisite. Can it be that Dr. Liszt is working himself clear out of the fermentation of that chaos, in which he has been so proud to maintain lay the only creation possible for music? The *Athenæum* has always fancied, and hoped against hope, that he might arrive at what musicians, neither of past, present, nor future, but "of

all time," accept for composition in Music; and this *Notturmo* proves that the fancy was not chimerical, nor the hope wholly baseless.

Since we wrote last, M. Jullien has "amended his plea," by announcing the usual series of nights for classical music.—Miss Goddard and M. Rémy have been his *solo* players.

That the season of the *Opera Buffa* comes to its close this evening will surprise no one,—let him regret ever so much the discomfiture of those ignorant of their own deficiencies who were brought hither to show London how "Young Italy" sings.

The English Opera at the Lyceum, or rather 'The Rose of Castille,' has now only a few more nights to run ere the theatre is claimed by Mr. Dillon.—Mr. Wallace is again here from America.

The *Gazette Musicale* of this week states that the oratorio by Herr Rubinstein, 'Paradise Lost,' advertised to in the *Athenæum*, will be produced at Weimar in February next, under Dr. Liszt's auspices. The oratorio, as we said, on perusal of it, is full of interest,—a work written with no ordinary courage, though its respect for established forms separates it from the music of the Weimar school.—A fugue of no common energy—having for situation the Battle of the Angels—recurs to us at the moment of writing; also no small part of the music given to "the Creation," which is treated in a point of view entirely different from that occupied by Haydn.—Herr Tichatschek, the best German tenor we recollect to have heard, is retiring from service at the Dresden Opera, to which he was attached during so many years.—'Macbeth,' a new opera by Herr Taubert, has been given at Berlin, with Mlle. Wagner as the *Lady*.—Madame Goldschmidt has been singing for the Handel Monument at Halle. To supply this lady's place Mlle. Jenny Meyer has been engaged.

Madame Cora Wilhorst, an American lady, is about to adventure in no less ambitious a place than the *Italian Opera* at Paris.—We perceive that another American *prima donna*, Madame Lucy Escott, who has been for some time heading a company of Opera in English, travelling in the provinces, is about to return home.

All lovers of Italy will perceive with satisfaction that Signor Verdi's popularity seems at present receiving checks on every side. Neither 'Aroldo' nor 'Simone Boccanegra,' his last two operas, appears to grow in favour with the public, and fierce and discreditable have been the paper wars in consequence. Unless the *maestro* will write more music of the same quality as the quartet in 'Rigoletto,' or the fourth act of 'Il Trovatore,' we hope that the spirit of recusancy will increase, though for the moment the mischief is done.—Another setting of 'Adrianna Lecouvreur,' a drama already treated in music by Signor Vera, by *maestro* Benvenuti, is talked of in the Italian organs.

"Is it well," asks a Correspondent, "in our dramatic licenser to have sanctioned the production of 'The Storming and Capture of Delhi,' which is now running at one of our London theatres!—Surely, at a time when the lists of killed and wounded, and, more trying still, of missing persons, are still incomplete, our authorities should interfere betwixt such rash and thoughtless displays; and the suspense of those who must naturally be averse to see so noble a public triumph bought by so frightful an amount of private calamity converted into a piece of child's play."

Two new dramas, beneath the classical standard, but not without merit, have been produced at two distant theatres—the Marylebone and the Surrey. At the latter, the drama is in four acts, entitled 'The Wife's Revenge, or the Masked Riders,' and, like 'I Puritani,' is founded on the incident of Queen Henrietta's escape from England. In this *Sir Everard Tracy* assists, in the character of a leader of "masked riders," who constantly annoy the Parliamentarians,—thereby he excites the jealousy of his wife *Eleanor*, who, by her acts, seriously compromises his political movements. At length she discovers her error, and proves repentant, but can scarcely at first calm her husband's rage. However, when his "masked riders" have

succeeded in dispersing the opposing forces, and he has been assured of his royal mistress's safety, the Cavalier relents and forgives her troublesome indiscretions. There is a poetic aim in this piece, and the part of Sir Everard, in Mr. Creswick's hands, is full of dash, fire, and gallantry. His perils are indeed intricate, and his escapes surprising.—Inferior to this drama is the play produced at the Church Street establishment by Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Holt. It is by Mr. Fitzball, and bears unmistakable traces of his hand, both in the title and texture of the work. It is called 'A Husband's Vengeance, or the Children of the Castle.' The small persons are very important characters. Husband, wife, and children were summoned at the end of the second and last acts; and so far the stage purpose was answered.

We understand that Mr. Leigh Murray is about to appear at Drury Lane, the return of Mr. C. Mathews not being looked for till March.—Mr. Dillon's burlesque at the Lyceum is to be oriental; entitled 'Lalla Rookh.'

It is generally understood that there will be no Windsor theatricals this Christmas.—The dramatic folk have heard, on the other hand, that the gratuitous opening of the theatres, on the occasion of the marriage of H.R.H. the Princess Royal, is under consideration.

MISCELLANEA

Organ-Cases.—A crotchet in relation to music, which a late glance at certain Italian towns suggested, may be offered for the consideration of churchwardens, committees of taste, and lecturers on ornament. The organs in the Italian churches are silent, and when they are made to speak it is to utter organ-nonsense, unbefitting a place of worship. Meanwhile, their cases are often worth looking at; as harmonizing with the gilding and frescoes of the vault above, with the arabesques on the pilasters betwixt which they stand, with the carving and inlaid woodwork of the stalls over which they preside. I was especially struck with this in the old city of Lute-makers.—Cremona. The interior decorations of the interesting brick churches there are more than usually self-consistent. The organ has been accordingly treated as an object of pomp, to be paraded, not to be managed or got rid of; and thus it composes (as painters say) handsomely with everything around it. Sometimes, it is true, one has to complain of the same scenic taste as speaks unpleasantly in the garden and alcove wall-paintings in Italy,—when the shutters, which fill up the rich framework, in place of a grand picture (as may be seen in some churches), show merely a false face of mimic pipe-work. This is, of course, detestable. Even the picture, when it is good, may be wrong in point of taste. What appears right is the disposition to dress up and deck the organ in correspondence with the building, so as to set it forth as a permanent feature. With us there is now far too much disposition to throw away and mistake the opportunity and the purpose; as in St. George's Hall, Liverpool,—where the bunches of huge tubes, with only a meagre girder of framework to connect them, are vexatiously at variance with the grand style of the gallery which supports them, and make nine visitors out of ten conceive that the organ has yet to be finished. If the display of pipes were all that is permissible by just taste, why not have the bellows also brought into evidence? If ornament is concerned in the matter, organs claim a treatment more tasteful and important than our architects have of late cared to bestow on them. C."

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—K.—One of the Students—C. E. L.—X. X.—G. H.—E. flat—B.—P. D.—W. T.—C. G.—M.—J. C.—Amateur Author—received.

E. H. H.—J. B. and F. I. T.—We are obliged to these Correspondents for their testimony in the matter of the song built on Shenstone's 'Pastoral,' inquired after by our Correspondent.

Errata.—In the report of the meeting of the Statistical Society, last week, Mr. Nassau Senior's name was misprinted; also, for "Czoerning" read Czerning, and for "Henschling" read Heuschling.

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